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'Carry out safety audit of buildings'

BENGALURU
After *The Hindu* reported on a BBMP office building not having NOC from the Fire Department, BBMP Chief Engineer B.S. Prahlad told officials to submit safety audit reports of all buildings of the civic body. » PAGE 5

'Average commute time for 10 km is minimum 1 hour'

BENGALURU
In Bengaluru, the average commute time for car users is a minimum of one hour when covering a distance of 10 km, says a report. » PAGE 2

Ready to assess capacity of 13 hill States, govt. tells SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Centre has proposed forming a 13-member technical committee to evaluate the "carrying capacity" of 13 Himalayan States.

Frequent landslips leading to deaths and destruction had led the Supreme Court to moot a re-evaluation of the load-carrying capacity of hill towns and cities.

The carrying capacity is the maximum population size that an ecosystem can sustain without getting degraded.

The Environment Ministry, represented by Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, filed a short affidavit stressing that it was "imperative that factual aspects of each hill station are specifically identified and collected with the help of local authorities cutting across multiple disciplines".

The Union government noted that in January 2020, it circulated among the 13 Himalayan States guidelines for assessing the carrying capacity of their hill stations, including cities and eco-sensitive zones.

Crumbling hills: Several buildings collapsing following massive landslips at Kullu in Himachal Pradesh in August. AFP

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Chinese President will not attend Delhi G-20 summit

Foreign Ministry declines to give reasons for Xi's absence, says Premier Li Qiang will attend the meet; Beijing hopes the grouping will rise up to challenges facing global economy, development

Ananth Krishnan
NEW DELHI

China's Foreign Ministry announced on Monday that President Xi Jinping will for the first time skip a G-20 summit, with the Chinese Premier and second-ranked leader Li Qiang instead deputed to attend the September 9-10 meet in New Delhi.

No reasons have been given for Mr. Xi skipping the summit, a key annual diplomatic event that China has usually placed special emphasis on, viewing it as an important platform to shape the global order and exert its rising clout.

Mr. Xi only recently attended the BRICS summit in South Africa on August 24, when he hailed the decision to expand the grouping. Mr. Xi and Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not have a formal bilateral meeting in South Africa but had an informal conversation on the sidelines, when they discussed the as yet unresolved crisis along the Line of Actual Control.

"As the world economy experiences more downward pressure and challenges grow for global sustainable development, it is important that the G-20, being the premier forum for international economic cooperation, strengthen partnership and rise up to the big challenges facing global economy and development so as to contribute to world economic recovery and growth and global sustainable development," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said.

Decked up: G-20 logos have been painted across New Delhi ahead of the summit on September 9 and 10. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

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MACRON'S PLAN
» PAGE 12

Looking forward to my trip to India, says Biden

WASHINGTON
U.S. President Joe Biden said he is looking forward to his trip to India but is "disappointed" that his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping will not attend the G-20 summit in New Delhi. The leaders met last in November 2022 on the sidelines of the Bali summit. » PAGE 15

Article 370 case: SC asks petitioner-MP to file affidavit pledging allegiance to Constitution

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday said it wants National Conference party leader Mohammad Akbar Lone, a petitioner in the Article 370 abrogation challenge case, to file an affidavit stating that he "unconditionally accepts" that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and he owes allegiance to the Constitution.

A Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud asked Mr. Lone to file the affidavit by Tuesday.

On Monday, the Centre and other respondents accused Mr. Lone, an MP, of having raised slogans including "Pakistan Zindabad" in the J&K Assembly in 2018. They said he had till date expressed no remorse about his actions.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, who appeared for Mr. Lone in the Article 370 case, said his client was a member of the Lok Sabha. "He has sworn an oath as a Member to the Constitution of India. He is a citizen of India... How can he say otherwise," Mr. Sibal said.

"But what you are saying is only a submission... We want it from him that he unconditionally accepts that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and he owes allegiance to the Constitution," the Chief Justice told Mr. Sibal.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Metro Mitra app to be launched tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To bridge first and last-mile connectivity between metro stations, the Autorickshaw Drivers' Union (ADU) is set to launch the Metro Mitra app on Wednesday.

According to a release, the Bengaluru Autorickshaw Drivers' Union will launch 'Metro Mitra' at Jayanagar station. The app will be launched under the open network for digital commerce and the service will initially be available for commuters who book metro tickets via the Namma Bengaluru BMRCL WhatsApp chat bot.

Regarding the app's logo, Rudramurthy, Chief Secretary of ARDU, explained to *The Hindu* that the arrows featured in the MetroMitra logo symbolise the distinctive colours associated with all six metro lines, including the forthcoming corridors.

'50% of pending bills for BBMP works to be released'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka government will release 50% of the pending bills of all completed works of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has announced on Monday.

The contractors had stopped works in Bengaluru over the civic body not paying pending bills for the last 26 months and pendency touching a whopping ₹6,000 crore. The decision of the State has come as a breather to beleaguered contractors.

D.K. Shivakumar

The government had constituted four special investigation teams to probe quality of works and other issues pertaining to civic works taken up under various departments. Earlier, Mr. Shivakumar had said that pending bills would be paid only after completion of this investigation, which the contractors had taken exception to.

Association reaction

However, the BBMP Contractors Association is not happy, as they think 50% would be a "paltry amount".

Recently, Mr. Shivakumar had told the contractors that 75% of the bills would be released. President of the association, K.T Manjunath, talking to *The Hindu,* said: "The government had assured us of releasing 75% and now the announcement has come with 25% slash. The released amount will not help the contractors sustain, as they have to borrow money again if the government issues fresh tenders."

On whether contractors will resume ongoing works, Mr. Manjunath said the association will hold a meeting and discuss the issue again with Mr. Shivakumar.

Sources in the BBMP say that the government may successfully convince the contractors to resume work to keep the civic works, that has come to a standstill after the new Congress government came to power, running.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 2

Poor rainfall leading to summer-like peak demand for electricity, says Minister George

#THTALKSBENGALURU

K.C. Deepika
Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

The poor southwest monsoon in Karnataka is resulting in "summer-like" peak demands for electricity, said Energy Minister K.J. George.

Participating in #THTalksBengaluru, a live chat with *The Hindu* and its readers on Monday, the Minister said while the State generated 252 million units (MU), as on Monday, the demand was 269 MU. The government is purchasing power to meet the shortfall.

Energy Minister K.J. George takes part in #THTalksBengaluru, a live chat with *The Hindu* and its readers, in Bengaluru on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

"We usually shut down thermal stations for maintenance during monsoon, but we have not done that this time. Unfortunately, as it is cloudy, solar generation is also not very high and wind generation has also gone down. The shortfall is around 17 MU. We are facing a summer-like situation now," said Mr. George.

Record peak demand

According to the Energy Department, Karnataka hit an all-time record peak demand of 16,950 MW on August 25. While the corresponding consumption was 294 MU, the August 2022 peak was 11,268 MW and 11,371 MW in August 2021.

Nationally too, the demand hit a record high of 239.978 GW (gigawatts) or 2,39,978 MW on September 1 at 12.22 p.m., according to the Ministry of Power. "This is an all-time high so far. The sudden rise in power demand was met by taking several proactive measures," said R.K. Singh, Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy on X (formerly Twitter).

"From adding capacity aggressively, running coal-based plants at full throttle to massive renewables deployment, a mechanism has been put in place to meet any contingency. We are fully prepared to meet any such spike in future too. The progress of the nation cannot be compromised," he added.

The Karnataka government is also planning to import coal for better power generation, said Mr. George. "Coal quality is not good in India. With indigenous coal, more ash is produced which affects power generation. We need good quality coal for new technology thermal plants. We are planning to import coal and blend it and we are going to call for a global tender. A scrutiny committee headed by judge will oversee this," he explained.

RELATED REPORTS » PAGE 3

"FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS, I COMMIT MY SPIRIT."
(LUKE 23:46)

JANAMMA MUTHOOT
W/O LATE PAPPACHAN MUTHOOT
09/03/1933 - 02/09/2023

Prayer services will start at 2:30 p.m. at the residence followed by funeral services at 3:30 p.m. at St. Matthew's Orthodox Valiyapalli in Kozhencherry.

Scan the QR code to watch the livestreaming of the funeral services

PAPPACHAN muthoot
Blue is Belief

Tennis mothers storm the court, shatter stereotypes

Wozniacki is the most recent to return to a career in sports after giving birth and has become the face of mothers leading a profession while being a full-time parent; Serena famously won the 2017 Australian Open while pregnant; Court paved the way back in the 1970s

Vighnesh P. Venkitesh

Former World No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki went down fighting in the fourth round of the US Open at the Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York on Sunday. Playing in her first Grand Slam since 2020, not much was expected from Wozniacki. But the Dane put up a brilliant display to show the world she was ready and serious for a second stint.

Wozniacki came into the tournament after suffering early exits from a pair of tune-up events in Montreal and Cincinnati but excelled in New York, where she took down 11th seed Petra Kvitova en route the round-of-16 before being eliminated by sixth-seed American Coco Gauff who is at the top of her game after winning in Washington and Cincinnati.

During her break from the game, the 33-year-old gave birth to two children. Wozniacki says her plan is to figure in the full programme next year. To come out of retirement is never easy for a player and Wozniacki admitted that she was testing the waters in New York before taking the leap.

"I wanted to see with these three events that I came back and played this year. I wanted to see where I was tennis-wise, where I was physically," said Wozniacki after the Gauff match. "I'm exactly where I want to be. There are still a few things that I want to work on and can do better. But in general, I think it's very positive."

She has identified a weakness in her serve which, she said, let her down in New York, particularly in the first and third sets of the round-of-16 clash. She has set the goal of improving her serve before taking the court in 2024. While she has to improve physically, she proved that she still had a champion mentality. "I think that I can beat anyone on any given day," she said at the Arthur Ashe Stadium on Sunday.

While Wozniacki's 'second career' is just budding, there are players before her and with her who have taken a break to be mothers and returned with grace.

Familiar face

Now retired, Serena Williams is the most familiar face in the contemporary sports world when it comes to 'working mothers.' Serena has the (joint) second-most Grand Slams, sharing the spot with Novak Djokovic with 23 titles. After a glorious career, the American took a break in 2017 to give birth to her daughter and came back to the court in 2018 to reach four Major finals before calling it quits in 2022. It was later revealed that she was pregnant when she won the 2017 Australian Open!

Serena has spoken up against the stereotypes cast on mothers in the game. Speaking to *Vogue* magazine in September last year, she said "it was unfair that she had to choose between being a professional tennis player and being a parent," something that would not be expected of the likes of Tom Brady, for example, who played in the American National Football League at age 45 despite having three children.

Years before Serena, Australian ace Margaret Court, who still holds the record for most Slam titles (24), did the same thing; she suspended her career to have kids and came back to win three titles. Court definitely had it harder, given her peak was in the 1970s, an era where stereotypes were stronger than today.

Tennis is one of the sports that has tackled sexism the most. From the epic battle of the sexes between Billie Jean King and Bobby Riggs, tennis has come a long way in ushering in gender equality. At the US Open, the mothers have rattled the courts, stereotypes and opponents. Coming from a social structure that expects mothers to stay at home with their kids, they have entered the fray to show that they can still cast a spell.

Victoria Azarenka went out in straight sets in the second round in New York this year, but is still battling for a doubles crown in the company of Brazilian Beatriz Haddad Maia. The duo has reached the round of 16. The former World No. 1, who has won two Slams, has been through tougher battles in her personal life, including a custody battle for her son whom she gave birth to in 2016. The 34-year-old Belarusian still has her moments on court and is not ready to let her personal life get in the way of her career.

> I wanted to see with these three events that I came back and played this year, I wanted to see kind of where I was tennis-wise, where I was physically
>
> **CAROLINE WOZNIACKI**

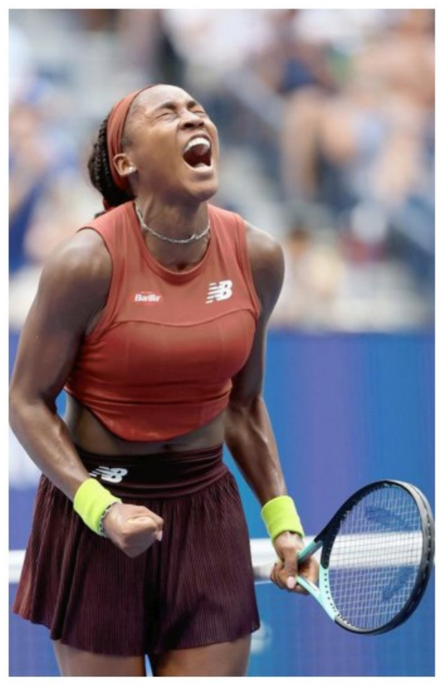
Elina Svitolina, who rocketed to third in the world rankings and is currently 26th, bowed out in the third round in New York on Sunday. She gave birth to a daughter in 2022. The 28-year-old Ukrainian made headlines in 2022 when she refused to play against anyone from Russia or Belarus after the invasion of her country. The war took a toll on her. Nevertheless, she is still out on court, trying to get back to her best.

Townsend back in town

Taylor Townsend of the United States bowed out in the third round of women's singles in this edition of her home Slam, but has reached the quarterfinals in both women's doubles, where she has teamed up with Canadian Leylah Fernandez, and in mixed doubles where she is playing with American Ben Shelton. She became a mother in 2021 at the age of 24 and is climbing up her career ladder.

Another ace in the pack is Angelique Kerber, a former World No. 1 with three Grand Slam titles who announced a break from her career in 2022 due to pregnancy. She gave birth to a baby girl in 2023 and has not returned to court. But fans around the world are eagerly waiting for the return of the southpaw.

While they may not have had stupendous success, these mothers are proof that gender or personal choices don't define the career of a sportsperson. They take the court with swinging racquets and soaring confidence, not ready to cave in without a fight. While they may be a step slower and fallen short of going the distance, they are champions in their own right. Doing double duty – at home and court – is not easy and the fact that they have taken up the challenge deserves a salute.



Gauff powers on with the weight of expectations on her shoulders

Associated Press
NEW YORK

Coco Gauff is the first American teen since Serena Williams more than two decades ago to reach the U.S. Open quarterfinals two years in a row, so the 19-year-old from Florida knows her way out of trouble on a tennis court.

As the second set slipped away against Caroline Wozniacki in the fourth round on Sunday at Arthur Ashe Stadium, Gauff needed a chance to think things through after handing over a break with a pair of double-faults and a stumble that left her doing the splits.

So Gauff turned in the direction of the near-constant chatter coming from Brad Gilbert, one of her two coaches sitting in a front-row seat, and said, "Please stop." A couple of minutes later, Gauff said, "Stop talking."

That was while Wozniacki was grabbing four consecutive games to go up a break in the third set. And then, just as the match seemed to be slipping away thanks in part to a slew of unforced errors, Gauff straightened out her strokes and pulled way. She collected the last six games for a 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 victory over Wozniacki, the 33-year-old mother of two who recently came out of retirement.

"I was getting frustrated. It wasn't really directed at him. It was just that I needed to reset," the sixth-seeded Gauff said. "In that moment, I just didn't want to hear anything. I just wanted to think about what I was doing."

Her next opponent will be No. 20 seed Jelena Ostapenko, the 2017 French Open champion. Ostapenko beat defending champion Iga Swiatek 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 on Sunday night.

Gauff, whose best showing at a Major was reaching the final at the 2022 French Open before losing to Swiatek, has now won 15 of her past 16 matches.

That run follows a first-round exit at Wimbledon in July and includes the two biggest titles of her career, at the DC Open and in Cincinnati. It also coincides with the additions of Pere Riba as her full-time coach and Gilbert in a role that's been described as a temporary consultant.

TV microphones have been picking up Gilbert repeatedly offering his thoughts to Gauff during matches over the past week.

Against Wozniacki, the 2018 Australian Open champion and twice the runner-up in New York, Gauff was trying to find the right balance between being the aggressor (what she wanted) and not going for too much (what Gilbert wanted).

Gilbert's "scouting reports are quite accurate," Gauff said. "Sometimes you have to change things up. Today I had to change things up."

It was the hottest day of the event so far, with the temperature reaching 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 Celsius), and Gauff kept missing the mark in the second set, to the tune of 22 unforced errors. But she cleaned that up considerably down the stretch, with just eight miscues in the last set. Also key in the third: Gauff compiled an 11-2 edge in winners.

"She's always been a great athlete. She's always had the backhand, the serve, the fighting spirit," Wozniacki said. "I feel like right now, it's all kind of coming together for her."

In the third set, with the playing surface covered in shadows, Wozniacki told chair umpire Louise Azemar Engzell it was difficult to see the ball and requested that the stadium lights be turned on.

"I would really appreciate it," Wozniacki said.

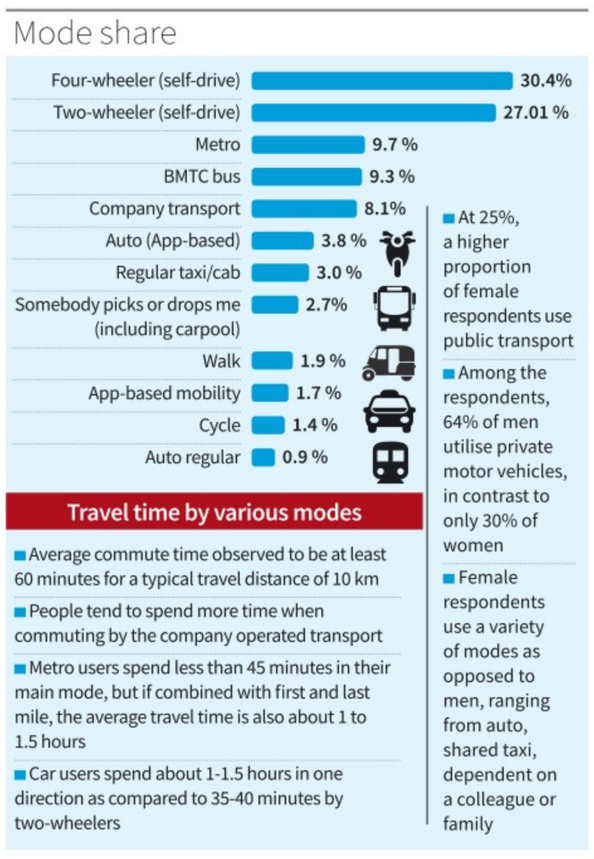
Didn't happen.

"She's back and it's like she never left," Gauff said, "To be out here on the court with her today was an honour."

‘Average commute time of car users for 10 km is minimum one hour’

Personal2Public campaign launched by NGOs prepared a report aiming to reduce the use of personal vehicles and encourage office-goers to switch to metro rail at least twice a week

The report that is part of the Personal2Public campaign being released in Bengaluru on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN


Mode share
Four-wheeler (self-drive) 30.4%
Two-wheeler (self-drive) 27.01 %
Metro 9.7 %
BMTC bus 9.3 %
Company transport 8.1%
Auto (App-based) 3.8 %
Regular taxi/cab 3.0 %
Somebody picks or drops me (including carpool) 2.7%
Walk 1.9 %
App-based mobility 1.7 %
Cycle 1.4 %
Auto regular 0.9 %
Travel time by various modes
Average commute time observed to be at least 60 minutes for a typical travel distance of 10 km
People tend to spend more time when commuting by the company operated transport
Metro users spend less than 45 minutes in their main mode, but if combined with first and last mile, the average travel time is also about 1 to 1.5 hours
Car users spend about 1-1.5 hours in one direction as compared to 35-40 minutes by two-wheelers
At 25%, a higher proportion of female respondents use public transport
Among the respondents, 64% of men utilise private motor vehicles, in contrast to only 30% of women
Female respondents use a variety of modes as opposed to men, ranging from auto, shared taxi, dependent on a colleague or family

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In Bengaluru, the average commute time for car users is typically observed to be a minimum of one hour when covering a standard travel distance of 10 kilometres, while car users spend about 1-1.5 hours in one direction as compared to 35-40 minutes by two-wheelers, according to a report which is part of the Personal2Public campaign launched by NGOs, including the Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC) and WRI India, released on Monday.

The report also reveals that metro users typically spend less than 45 minutes on their primary mode of transport. However, when factoring in the first and last-mile connections, the average travel time extends to approximately 1 to 1.5 hours. In contrast, commuters using company-operated transportation tend to experience longer commutes.

The report was done mainly aiming to reduce the use of personal vehicles and encouraging office-goers to switch to metro rail at least twice a week. The campaign was launched in the backdrop of metro lines reaching Whitefield and Electronics City, expected to be operational in December.

As of August 28, a total of 3,855 individuals have participated in the feedback collection initiative for the report, with 9.7% identifying as metro users, 9% as bus users, and a significant 81.3% falling into the non-user category.

The survey reveals that nearly 60% of the respondents rely on personal vehicles for their daily commute, while the remaining respondents opt for various shared mobility options. The survey also highlights that the lack of seamless transportation connections is a major factor motivating respondents to choose personal vehicles as their mode of transport.

Srinivas Alavilli, fellow at WRI India, said, “The only long-term solution to our traffic problem is public transport. 2023 is going to be a milestone year for Brand Bengaluru, as metro connects Whitefield to the rest of the city. The responses have made it clear that Bengalureans will shift to public transport if we make their everyday travel reliable and seamless. As the Outer Ring Road (ORR) has maximum number of daily commuters, running faster feeder buses from Purple Line metro stations to tech parks on ORR will make a big difference. Our sincere appeal to commuters is to adopt public transport starting at least two days a week.”

Ashish Verma, convener, IISc. Sustainable Transportation Lab (IST Lab), said that for Bengaluru to have a sustainable mobility system, the city needs to achieve at least 80% daily trip mode share on public transport, walking, and cycling together. This is achievable through well-structured and methodological policy and planning interventions by government as well as strong campaigns like personal2public. Sathya Sankaran, Council for Active Mobility & Bicycle Mayor Bengaluru, said that half the responders to the P2P survey live within 3 km of a metro station. 22% of those already own a bicycle.

Meanwhile, the State government which has taken up various initiatives to solve the city’s civic mobility issues under “Brand Bengaluru” initiative, will go through the P2P survey report.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, M.V. Rajeev Gowda, Vice-Chairman of the State Institute for Transformation of Karnataka and member of the Brand Bengaluru Committee, said, “It is good that the civic groups have come up with the survey report and surely we will have the discussion around the recommendation suggested in the survey with various government civic authorities.”

Mobility report recommends cycle lanes and encouraging the use of public transport

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The report also bats for the implementation of cycle streets in areas with high pedestrian population on high priority. FILE PHOTO

Brand Bengaluru’s ‘Agile and Sustainable Mobility for All’ report has recommended the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) open more bicycle lanes, pedestrianise, and invigorate public transport, besides focusing on implementation of the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA).

The report was submitted to the BBMP by Meghna Verma, Associate Professor and Head, Centre for Sustainability, Ramaiah Institute of Management, and Ashish Verma, Professor and Convenor, IISc. Sustainable Transportation Lab (IST Lab), Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.

The report was prepared after analysing 6,154 responses from the public and discussion with stakeholders.

The report has predominantly recommended the immediate implementation of the BMLTA Bill that was passed in December 2022, and the redefining of the development goal for Bengaluru under the Brand Bengaluru campaign as ‘Sustainable and Liveable Bengaluru.’

The report suggested developing an up-to-date masterplan and comprehensive mobility plan for the city.

The report has recommended formulating local citizen groups, with representations from volunteers who are actively involved in achieving or promoting sustainable mobility and who can help the government with inputs and insights for planning implementation.

Active mobility

The report has recommended significant improvement to active mobility infrastructure in the city, with a special emphasis on increasing pedestrian walkways network connectivity, quality of footpaths in the influence zone of all metro stations, major bus stations and upcoming suburban stations.

It also bats for the implementation of pedestrianised and cycle streets in areas with high pedestrian population on high priority. The report has also recommended developing a sustainable manual for streets that encompasses footpaths, drains, and public spaces.

The report says bicycle/bike/rickshaw sharing facilities in congested areas and transit hubs could help resolve last and first-mile connectivity.

To nudge people towards sustainable modes of travel, the government should make personal travel modes unattractive through carefully and scientifically derived policy and planning strategies, it says.

The report has recommended levying high lifetime tax on vehicles based on various costs associated with owning and using a vehicle.

Congestion pricing could be imposed on road users travelling during congested hours or to congested areas, it added.

To encourage public transport, last-mile connectivity should be made better and the government must work towards the implementation of multi-modal integration and station accessibility plans around station areas.

The report recommended increasing the trip model share of public transportation through various government initiatives, implementation of revenue sharing arrangements between BMTC and BMRCL for increase feeder buses, crafting a comprehensive maintenance strategy inclusive of detailed schedules for the regular upkeep of public transportation infrastructure, increasing network connectivity of BMTC and metro.

BMTC set to abolish night fare in buses, says Transport Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) will eliminate the night fare in buses soon, said Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy. At present, BMTC imposes a surcharge at 1.5 times higher than the standard fare for services between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. in the city.

Mr. Reddy announced that an official directive to eliminate the night fare will be issued soon.

Meanwhile, Mr. Reddy also revealed that BMTC’s mobile application, ‘Namma BMTC,’ is set to be officially unveiled on September 25 as a part of BMTC’s 25th anniversary.

He further said: “The eagerly anticipated Namma BMTC app, scheduled for release on September 25, will offer features such as real-time bus tracking and the convenience of purchasing bus tickets through the app.”

Following the introduction of UPI-based payments as a pilot initiative by the North West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) recently, Mr. Reddy on Monday announced plans to implement a similar cashless ticketing system for both BMTC and KSRTC soon.

Mr. Reddy announced these plans following his inspection of the Kalasipalya bus terminus in the city on Monday.

Rainbow Drive Layout residents oppose diversion of rajakaluve

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

About 26 residents in Rainbow Drive Layout (RBD), located off Sarjapur Road, have written to the management committee (MC) of the layout opposing diversion of a rajakaluve from its original path.

In a High Court-ordered Assistant Director of Land Records (ADLR) survey, 13 houses in Wipro lane of RBD were found to be encroaching upon a storm-water drain. The HC in July ordered the BBMP to build a drain on the original path. However, the residents whose houses are built on the channels again approached the HC seeking a stay, following which the court directed not to act until the next hearing. The BBMP that arrived to demolish houses had returned after the stay was granted, said Mahavepura Zonal Commissioner Trilok Chandra.

Meanwhile, 26 residents in a signed letter to the MC accessed by *The Hindu* said: “We understand that an alternative plan for drainage is being considered and moves through the entire stretch of 13th Cross (East to West) and 4th Main Road (North to South). We the plot owners from 13th Cross and 4th Main Road do not consent and approve of this plan. We have not been consulted on this plan which directly affects individual properties.”

The letter was written on August 4.

The builder who had commenced diversion work had to stop the same as the matter is pending before the court and a local villager, Lokesh Reddy opposed the diversion.

For diverting the channel, the builder would need Mr. Reddy’s property and a house is also located on the proposed path. Mr. Reddy said he has moved the court to foil their bid and he will not sell the land to the builder. The storm-water drains are linked to Halanayakanahalli lake and Junnasandra lake.

A resident of the layout talking to *The Hindu* said the diversion will bring channels in front of homes of people living in 13th Cross and 4th Main Road. During the rains, there is a possibility of flooding and due to that their site value will go down.

HC accepts BBMP’s action plan to remove encroachments on lakes and drains

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of encroachments being removed from a rajakaluve off Borewell Road.

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday accepted the action plan submitted by the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for prevention and removal of encroachments on storm-water drains and lakes by fixing responsibility on the designated officers and timeline for taking various steps.

However, a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Krishna S. Dixit asked the BBMP to reduce the timeline for initiating the process of taking action so that process could be expedited without loss of time.

Earlier, in its action plan on lakes, the BBMP had said that 21 lakes are free from encroachments, of the 202 under its jurisdiction.

Pointing out that 19 lakes are disused, two lakes are yet to be handed over to the civic body, and one lake is partially handed over, the BBMP said the process of identifying the removal of encroachments of the remaining 159 lakes would be initiated in a phased manner in the next 16 weeks by taking up 10 lakes per week.

On SWD encroachments, the BBMP has said that authorities for lodging complaints, receiving complaints, conducting surveys, removal of identified encroachments, to initiate complaint before special court for land grabbing cases, to provide protection during removal of encroachments have been notified by the State government on August 28 along with responsibilities of each of the authorities.

The BBMP has said that each instance of removal of every encroachment would take about 172 days, provided no stay from the jurisdictional courts and tribunals.

On noticing that there are around 50% of posts of assistant engineers and assistant executive engineers vacant in the BBMP and many are working in deputation, the Bench directed the government to take steps to fill up these posts expeditiously.

While directing the BBMP to proceed with its action plan, the Bench asked the BBMP to submit status report in six weeks.

ITI student stabbed by classmate over row

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 21-year-old ITI student was stabbed allegedly by his classmate over a trivial row in class on Monday.

The victim, Fasi Ahmed, a resident of Chikkabanawara, sustained stab injuries on his back and is recovering at the hospital.

Row with classmate

According to the police, Fasi had an argument with his classmate after he found him taking a metal piece during the practical class. After the class, Fasi was returning home walking near K.G Halli, when the accused confronted him and argued over the issue again.

In the melee, the accused allegedly stabbed Fasi on his back and sped away. Fasi fell on the ground bleeding and passers-by took him to the hospital.

Based on a complaint, the Gangammnagudi police have registered a case and are investigating further.

32-year-old businessman kidnapped by friends for ransom

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 32-year-old businessman was kidnapped in a car, taken to Denkanikottai in Tamil Nadu, and tortured by his four friends demanding a ransom of ₹20 lakh recently. The victim, Sandeep Kumar, managed to escape from them and with the help of the local police reached the city and filed a complaint with the C.K. Acchukattu police.

The police have registered a case of kidnap, assault, and criminal intimidation against the accused and efforts are on to track them down.

The victim was known to the accused who came and picked him up from his house around 2.30 a.m. on the pretext of taking him for tea. The accused however took a detour and drove to Denkanikottai before snatching his mobile and throwing the SIM card out of the window, said the police.

The victim raised objections to which the accused started assaulting him and demanded that he should arrange ₹50 lakh.

The accused, Kiran Kumar, told Mr. Sandeep that he was desperately in need of money to clear criminal cases pending against him.

When the victim expressed his helplessness to arrange such a big amount, the accused settled for ₹20 lakh, said the police.

The accused took Mr. Sandeep to a farmhouse near Denkanikottai and tortured him for several hours, said the police.

From Page One

State govt. will release 50% of pending bills for BBMP works, says Dy. CM Shivakumar

While Mr. Shivakumar has said the government will release funds, there is no clarity on which funds will be released. There are three types of works - from BBMP, Government of Karnataka (GoK), and Government of India (GoI).

According to data shared by the BBMP, under BBMP works ₹3,256 crore is pending, under GoK ₹2,753 crore is pending, and ₹67 crore is pending under GoI works.

The previous government had released over ₹600 crore for works completed under Amrutha Nagarothana Yojana.

A radical idea to settle the universe expansion dispute

Scientists from ICTS Bangalore have proposed a new way to measure the Hubble constant, which could help resolve a crisis in cosmology about how fast the universe is accelerating, using lensed gravitational waves observed by the next generation of LIGO observatories

Sayantan Datta

About 13.8 billion years ago, a really small, really dense and really hot spot lying beyond spacetime began to expand. Its expansion and cooling - in an event that scientists have called the Big Bang - produced the universe as we know it.

The universe continued to expand, at first really rapidly before slowing down to a great degree. Then, about five or six billion years ago, dark energy - an unknown and largely uncharacterised form of energy - accelerated its expansion again.

Scientists confirmed that the universe was indeed expanding at an accelerating rate in 1998.

Light travelling from faraway galaxies becomes redshifted by the time it reaches an observer, in this case the James Webb Space Telescope. ESA/WEBB, NASA, AND CSA, A. MARTEL

A crisis

In 1929, American astronomer Edwin Hubble provided the first mathematical description of the universe's expansion in an equation called Hubble's law. Yet the precise *rate* of this expansion, called the Hubble constant, remains a point of crisis in modern cosmology.

In a move that could eventually help resolve this crisis, researchers at the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS), Bengaluru; the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune; and the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) have proposed a new way to determine the Hubble constant.

Their study was published in the journal *Physical Review Letters* in June.

While the study's predictions may only be tested in the 2040s, their method "will provide an independent measurement of cosmological parameters," Jasjeet Singh Bagla, an astrophysicist at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali, said.

Measuring the Hubble constant

Two details are required to calculate the value of the Hubble constant: the distance between the observer and astronomical objects, and the velocity at which these objects are moving away from the observer as a result of the expansion of the universe.

So far, scientists have used three methods to get these details:

1: They compare the observed brightness of a stellar explosion, called a supernova, with its expected brightness to figure how far away it could be. Then they measure how much the wavelength of the light from the star has been stretched by the expansion of the universe - i.e. the redshift - to figure how much it's moving away.

2: They use changes to the cosmic microwave background (CMB) - radiation leftover from the Big Bang event - to estimate the Hubble constant.

3: They use gravitational waves, ripples in spacetime produced when massive astronomical objects - like neutron stars or black holes - collide with each other. Detectors that observe gravitational waves record the data in the form of curves.

Using the shape of these curves, astronomers can calculate the amount of energy that the collision released. Comparing this with the amount of energy the waves had when they reached earth allows researchers to estimate the distance between these objects and earth. They use the redshift to get the moving-away speed.

The discrepancy

Measurements from the first method has reported a Hubble constant about two units higher than the one derived by the second method; the third method hasn't yet matured enough to provide a precise measurement.

Parameswaran Ajith, an author of the new study and an astrophysicist at ICTS, said this discrepancy could be due to a mistake in the methods used - or it could indicate that the Hubble constant is itself evolving with time.

This possibility arises because the three methods estimate the Hubble constant today based on information from *different stages* of the universe. The CMB way is based on a much younger universe while the other two are based on an older universe (i.e. closer to the one today).

Lensed gravitational waves

In 1919, as a total solar eclipse rendered the sky dark, Arthur Eddington led a group of astronomers to an island off Africa's west coast to photograph a star cluster for the duration of the eclipse. Back in England, he analysed these photographs and found something remarkable: the Sun's gravitational field was bending starlight passing through it.

Eddington had observed the *gravitational lensing* of light. Based on the idea that gravitational waves could be lensed as well, in 2021, researchers working with three gravitational-wave detectors in the U.S. and Italy conducted one of the first searches for such lensed waves in existing data.

Scientists are yet to find lensed gravitational waves but there's good reason to believe that they will in the next two decades. This is because the upcoming generation of gravitational-wave detectors are expected to be able to sense about a million gravitational waves a year, per the authors of the current study.

The rationale is that while lensed gravitational waves are expected to occur around 0.1% of the time, a decade's worth of observations should turn up thousands of them.

Detectors 'see' lensed gravitational waves as multiple copies of the same wave with a time delay. The current study began when Shasvath J. Kapadia, a postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Ajith in 2019-2022 and currently a faculty member at IUCAA, wondered if analysing a collection of all lensed waves and their time delays could contain an "imprint of the rate of expansion of the universe".

He built a preliminary model. Souvik Jana, a doctoral student with Prof. Ajith and the lead author of the current study, built on it, factoring in the fact that the *number* of lensed gravitational waves observed would depend on the *rate of expansion* of the universe.

An independent probe

The strength of the method, Prof. Ajith said, is its ability to independently estimate the Hubble constant from the intermediate stages of the universe's expansion. Mr. Jana added that the method could also help determine other cosmological parameters, such as the density of matter.

A.R. Rao, an astrophysicist who retired from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, called the study "fascinating". According to him, it provides an important cosmological use of gravitational waves.

> American astronomer Edwin Hubble provided the first mathematical description of the universe's expansion in an equation called Hubble's law.The precise rate of this expansion, called the Hubble constant, remains a point of crisis in modern cosmology

"Gravitational waves were detected in the last decade as a curio. This is one of the first papers to propose their astronomical use to measure something else," he said.

Signal-to-noise ratio

Prof. Bagla lauded the study as well but said that for the method to be successful, future research will have to account for a possibly low signal-to-noise ratio when identifying the source of the gravitational waves.

This, according to him, is especially important since Jana et al. in their method don't use any electromagnetic-wave counterpart - the traditional method of identifying the distance of sources from the earth and their moving-away speeds.

Meanwhile, the team is exploring other uses of their method - including an attempt to investigate the "nature of a dark matter particle", according to Tejaswi Venumadhav, a co-author and an assistant professor of physics at UCSB.

(Sayantan Datta (they/them) are a queer-trans freelance science writer, communicator and journalist. They currently work with the feminist multimedia science collective TheLifeofScience.com and tweet at @queersprings)

A replica of the Peking Man skull at the Palaeozoological Museum of China, 2009. YAN LI

Study spots 'bottleneck' in human evolution

Press Trust Of India

A novel genomic analysis technique has helped reveal the reasons for a 'bottleneck' in the growth of the human population that almost wiped out the chance for humankind as it exists today, scientists reported in a study published in *Science*.

The findings indicate that the early population of human ancestors went through a period in which approximately 1,280 breeding individuals were able to sustain a population for about 117,000 years, the researchers from China, Italy, and the U.S. said.

They were able to determine demographic characteristics using modern-day human genome sequences from 3,154 individuals and a new analytical method called fast infinitesimal time coalescent process (FitCoal).

The downturn in the human ancestral population's size was likely caused by glaciation events, droughts and loss of other species, potentially those that were a food source

FitCoal helped the researchers calculate a probable population size through history based on the contemporary sequences. They reported as a result that early human ancestors experienced extreme loss of life and, therefore, loss of genetic diversity.

Giorgio Manzi, an anthropologist at Sapienza University of Rome and a coauthor of the paper, said that the gap in "the African and Eurasian fossil records" can be explained by this "bottleneck in the Early Stone Age".

The reasons suggested for this downturn in the size of the human ancestral population include glaciation events, leading to changes in temperature and severe droughts, and loss of other species, potentially those that were food sources for ancestral humans.

An estimated 65.85% of humans' current genetic diversity may have been lost in this period, in the early to middle Pleistocene era (from two million to 11,000 years ago), and the prolonged period of a minimal number of breeding individuals could have threatened humankind as we know it today, the researchers said in their study.

However, the bottleneck also seemingly contributed to a speciation event in which two ancestral chromosomes may have converged to form chromosome 2 in modern humans, the researchers said.

"The novel finding opens a new field in human evolution because it evokes many questions, such as the places where these individuals lived, how they overcame the catastrophic [climatic] changes, and whether natural selection during the bottleneck accelerated the evolution of the human brain," said senior author Yi-Hsuan Pan, a researcher of evolutionary and functional genomics at East China Normal University, China.

Now that there is reason to believe that humans grappled with a struggle 930,000-813,000 years ago, researchers can continue digging to reveal how such a small population persisted in presumably dangerous conditions, the study said.

Humankind's rebound is expected to have been due to the use of fire and the arrival of more favourable climates.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

What computers need to compute: logic gates

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

A logic gate is a device that performs a logical operation on the inputs it receives. E.g., the value of 1 OR 0 is 1 and the value of 1 AND 0 is 0. Name the branch of algebra that deals with such combinations and their underlying theory.

QUESTION 2

Very large scale integration, or VLSI, refers to the technology by which billions of metal-oxide semiconductor transistors are combined in a single chip. Name the two logic gates most commonly used in these setups.

QUESTION 3

Name the two logic gates that are deemed to be functionally complete – i.e. each capable of recreating the functions of any other logic gate (AND, OR, NOT, NAND, NOR, XOR, and XNOR) by being combined in different ways.

QUESTION 4

The most common type of transistor in modern digital circuits is the MOS. 'MOS' stands for metal-oxide semiconductor. What does 'FET' stand for?

QUESTION 5

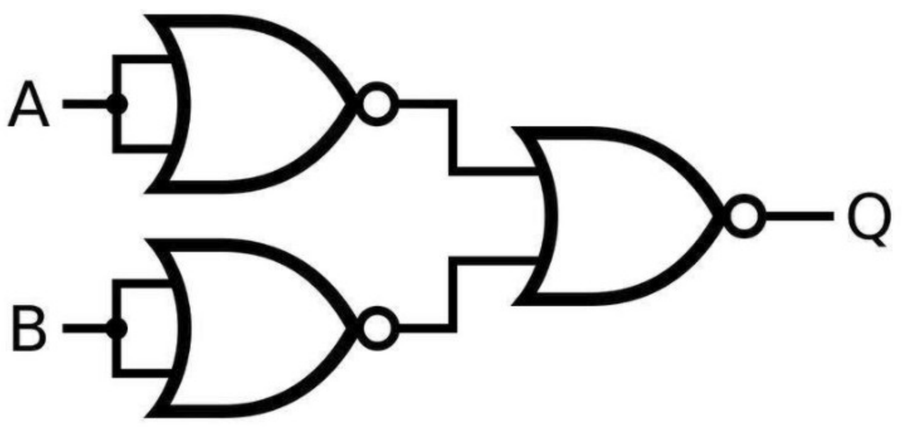
A quantum computer also uses logic gates to execute different types of calculations. Its basic computational unit is the qubit. When a qubit is composed of two basis states, the _____ gate produces a quantum superposition of these states. Fill in the blank.

Answers to August 31 quiz:

1. 'Superfood' dubbed "food of the gods", the primary ingredient in chocolate – **Ans: Cacao**
2. Small seed rich in omega-3 fatty acids – **Ans: Chia seeds**
3. Nutrient in green smoothie that keeps digestive system happy – **Ans: Fibre**
4. Vegetable known for antioxidants, offers a low-carb alternative – **Ans: Zucchini**
5. "Queen of spices" that owes its colour to curcumin – **Ans: Turmeric**

Visual: **Rosemary**

First contact: Jinson Chacko | Dishanta Adhikary | Shekhar Siddharth | Sutapa Dey



Visual: This image shows three NOR gates mimicking the operation of which other gate? PUBLIC DOMAIN

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Energy Dept. has framed contingency plan to tackle any future power shortfall, says George

While the current share of renewable energy in the State in power generation is around 40%, the government has plans to increase it to 80%; solar capacity is also likely to be increased

#THTALKSBENGALURU

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

With the demand for power progressively increasing, the Energy Department has framed a contingency plan to tackle any future shortfall by shifting the focus to renewable energy, said K.J. George, Minister of Energy, while answering questions from *The Hindu*'s readers during THTalksBengaluru.

While the current share of renewable energy in the State in power generation is around 40%, the government has plans to increase it to 80%.

"Currently, we generate about 42 million units (MU) through solar energy, about 17 MU from wind, 41 MU from hydro, and 49 MU from thermal stations. As solar, wind, and hydel are dependent on weather factors, we have other plans to enhance the generation capacity," Mr. George said.

K.J. George, Minister of Energy, participating in #THTalksBengaluru, a live chat with *The Hindu* and its readers, in Bengaluru on Monday.
K. MURALI KUMAR

Solar capacity

He added that the department plans to increase solar capacity in the State as it is more dependable. The Pavagada solar park, which currently has a capacity of 2,200 MW under phase one, will soon be extended over 10,000 more acres to enhance the capacity by another 2,000-2,500 MW. The proposal to solarise sub-stations which can improve power supply, even in rural areas, will soon be taken to the Cabinet. "While immediately generating 1,500 - 2,000 MW power, the solarisation will also help in reducing transmission losses."

Hydroelectricity

The government would also like to work on making use of pumped storage power plants, the Minister mentioned. "We want to pump during the daytime with cheap solar energy during monsoons and store it in our reservoirs. Within five minutes, we can start generating hydroelectricity. While many private parties have come forward for this, KPTCL is also keen on the Sharavathi pumped storage project," he said. The department also wants to explore green hydrogen options and are waiting for private investment as there is a ₹50,000 crore project in the pipeline.

"All of this will take time, but if we start now, the future will be safe. Hopefully, in the coming months, we will have a good strategy to face these (high demand) situations," Mr. George remarked.

Underground sub-stations among plans for safe power infrastructure

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

Underground sub-stations are among the new measures being planned by the Energy Department to strengthen the existing electricity infrastructure in Bengaluru, said Minister K.J. George, while answering questions from readers on THTalksBengaluru.

"While we want to increase the number of sub-stations, we are facing problems in Bengaluru as there is hardly any land available in the city. That is why we are planning for sub-stations to go underground like in other countries such as South Korea, so that we can also have the latest equipment which is much smaller," he elaborated.

High-tension cables

Speaking of a similar project, where high-tension (HT) cables are being laid underground by Bescom, the Minister said that almost 96% of the work was completed in sub-stations like Nagarabhavi and Peenya.

He said that the work at other sub-stations will also be taken up soon and that it would be ensured that all the electricity cables in Bengaluru go underground.

Responding to queries about transformers taking space on footpaths, Mr. George said that out of 2,500 transformers which were identified to be posing hazards to pedestrians, 2,300 had already been shifted.

He also said that if any other parties, like apartment complexes have encroached upon footpaths for their transformers, then even they would be identified and shifted soon.

Mr. George said that that in a meeting on Monday, he requested Additional Chief Secretary Gaurav Gupta to speak to the Central officers and the Union Ministry of Power regarding the Yelahanka combined cycle gas power plant to solve the problems between GAIL and Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) related to gas prices.

'Bidadi plant will be commissioned in three months'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Energy Minister K.J. George said that the first waste-to-energy plant in the State set up near Bidadi by Bescom, the BBMP, and Hitachi will be commissioned in two to three months.

The dry waste plant, with a capacity of 11.5 MW can process about 600 tonnes of waste. "As the total waste production in Bengaluru is about 4,000 tonnes, we would need eight plants like this," the Minister said.

He also said that the project is currently facing an issue as the Central government has said that subsidy for the project would only be given after the project takes off.

'No cut-off date, eligible consumers can still apply for Gruha Jyothi'

A Bescom meter reader issuing the bill, in Bengaluru on Monday.
K. MURALI KUMAR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has not given a cut-off date for applying for the Congress's flagship Gruha Jyothi scheme and eligible consumers can still apply for it, said Minister for Energy K.J. George on Monday.

"There are a total of 2.16 crore domestic consumer RR numbers in Karnataka and 2.14 core are eligible for subsidy as they have used less than 200 units of power. As many as 1.54 crore have applied for the scheme. Even now, eligible consumers can apply," he said during THTalksBengaluru.

He added that the government is reimbursing all electricity supply companies for the scheme and it has already started paying out the ₹640 crore.

Responding to doubts about the processes regarding Gruha Jyothi scheme, some readers pointed out to a lack of a system in informing the applicant of whether they are eligible or not.

To this, Mr. George said those applying get an SMS acknowledgement, but whether they are eligible or not will be known once the electricity bill is generated.

Priyank's response

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst the ongoing controversy surrounding the remarks of Tamil Nadu Minister for Sports and Youth Welfare Udhayanidhi Stalin about Sanatan Dharma, Karnataka Minister Priyank Kharge said that "any religion that does not promote equality or does not ensure you have the dignity of being human being is not a religion." He was responding to a query by the media on the statement of Udhayanidhi Stalin.

With varied learning levels in each classroom post pandemic, teachers need new skills to reach all

While it has been estimated that learning outcomes have dropped by 50% even in elite pvt. schools, govt. schools have seen about four different groups of students in every classroom, that have been categorised based on learning abilities

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

After the pandemic, almost every profession has had to recalibrate itself to meet the changed circumstances and new demands. Teachers too had to rehaul their teaching methods, catch up with technology and find solutions to newer problems that have emerged in the classrooms. Accordingly, training programmes needed by teachers have also changed.

One big challenge flagged by many teachers is dealing with a classroom where students are of different learning levels. While some teachers have figured out ways of dealing with it on the go, many feel that more practical training is necessary to tackle this problem.

SATHEESH VELLINEZHI

Different opportunities

"After the pandemic, we don't see a normal bell curve like before, as different children got different opportunities during the pandemic. While some students went two grades below their current classes in terms of learning, some others went down to the foundation levels where they even forgot simple arithmetic and grammar," explained Rishikesh B.S., faculty member, Azim Premji University.

It has been estimated by various studies and surveys that learning outcomes have dropped by 50% even in elite private schools.

In government schools, there emerged four different groups of students in every classroom, categorised based on their learning abilities.

More preparation

"The situation now is such that for a 40-minute class, the teachers would have to prepare for 48 hours. It is not possible anymore to make all the students understand lessons in the same way. With the responsibility of building a healthy society, teachers now have to carry four bundles of material to classrooms to make learning easier for each group of students," said Chikkadevegowda, Headmaster, Government High School, Agara.

With the one-size-fits-all approach not working, Mr. Rishikesh said that capacity-building exercises were now being conducted for teachers.

"A teacher must put out a bouquet of things now. The exercises help them develop strategies for a multi-level classroom and help them understand how to do specific things for specific groups. We also have a voluntary teachers' forum where teachers can come and discuss the problems they face and also figure out solutions for those problems."

Mr. Chikkadevegowda pointed out that there is a need for the Education Department itself to change the way it trains teachers.

"With these new challenges, what is lacking is practical training for teachers. There should be live demonstrations in classes by resource persons to help teachers understand how to teach specific groups. The teaching ability itself should be strengthened by the department and the process of teaching should become more activity-based," he said.

AI-enabled teaching

Immediately after the pandemic struck, teachers were forced to take to technology in order to reach their students. While it was easier for the younger lot to adapt, the older-generation teachers struggled.

Today, there are even AI-enabled teaching robots, but teachers are not lagging when it comes to technology.

"Around 90% of teachers are now well-versed with technology," said Sumangala. V., Director, Department of State Educational Research and Training (DSERT).

She added that most of the training programmes have gone online now so that the teachers have the option to take the training at their leisure without hampering classroom hours.

"We are teaching them to make use of all the new technology like AI and we create user manuals and live demos. We also give them hands-off training with interactive boards and any new electronic gadgets introduced in schools," Ms. Sumangala added.

She also said teachers were being trained in content creation now so that they could make videos that could reach more students.

"While they can develop their own content, they can access videos available on our portal according to their needs. We are also trying to help them pick content which would be most useful to them."

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, SEP. 05	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:28
RISE	22:42 SET 10:58
WEDNESDAY, SEP. 06	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:27
RISE	23:31 SET 11:55
THURSDAY, SEP. 07	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:27
RISE	00:00 SET 12:51

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	25
Mysuru	33	22
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail.Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Sd/- DIRECTOR

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ಕೋಹಾಒ:ಆಡಳಿತ:ನೇರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ:4044: 2023-24 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 04-09-2023
ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕೋಲಾರ-ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ ನಿ., ಕೋಲಾರ ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ವಿವಿಧ ವೃಂದಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ 53 ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ನೇರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಆರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಸಿಒ : 152 : ಸಿಸಿಬಿ : 2023 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18-07-2023 ರನ್ವಯ ಅನುಮೋದಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ **ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳು, ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ, ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ, ವಯೋಮಿತಿ, ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ಆಯ್ಕೆ ವಿಧಾನ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೋಲಾರ-ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಒಕ್ಕೂಟದ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ www.komul.coop ರಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.** ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಹೆಸರು	ವೇತನ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ
1.	ಸಹಾಯಕ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು (ಎ.ಹೆಚ್. & ಎ.ಐ.)	52650 - 97100	26
2.	ಸಹಾಯಕ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು (ವಿತ್ತ)	52650 - 97100	01
3.	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಡಿ.ಟಿ.)	43100 - 83900	15
4.	ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ	43100 - 83900	01
5.	ಸಿಸ್ಟಮ್ ಆಫೀಸರ್	43100 - 83900	01
6.	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಗು.ನಿ.)	43100 - 83900	01
7.	ಕೃಷಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ	43100 - 83900	03
8.	ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿ	43100 - 83900	01
9.	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಇಂಜಿ)	43100 - 83900	03
10.	ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಧಿಕಾರಿ	43100 - 83900	01

ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ : 05-09-2023 ರಿಂದ 04-10-2023ರ ವರೆಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಒಕ್ಕೂಟದ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ www.komul.coop ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತ ಉಳ್ಳ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂಚೆ / ಕೊರಿಯರ್ / ಖುದ್ದಾಗಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಯಾವುದೇ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/- ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಕೋಲಾರ-ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ ನಿ., ಕೋಲಾರ

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of shares SpiceJet gave to lessors in order to clear dues

48 in million. SpiceJet allotted shares to nine aircraft lessors to clear outstanding dues worth ₹2.31 billion. The fund crunch and grounded fleet has eroded SpiceJet's market share to 4.2% as of July. REUTERS

The assets declared by national parties in 2021-22

8,829 in ₹ crore. The declared assets of the BJP and Congress was ₹6,046.81 and ₹805.68 crore. Total assets declared by eight national parties in 2020-21 was ₹7,297.62 crore. PTI

The rise in India's power consumption in the month of August

16 In percentage. Power consumption grew to 151.66 billion units in August. The peak power supply touched a new high of 236.59GW in August and reached a record level of 239.97GW on September 1. PTI

Market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms at an all-time high

315 in lakh crore. This was helped by strong investor sentiments amid encouraging domestic macroeconomic data and a firm trend in global stocks. The BSE benchmark Sensex rose by 0.37%. PTI

The increase in Turkey's annual inflation last month

58.9 In percentage. This has put pressure on the central bank to hike interest rates at the risk of angering President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Aditya L1: its functioning and purpose

Aditya L1 will function as a space weather station. Understanding space weather is an international issue, and the data from the spacecraft will aid in making models and predicting storms in advance

FULL CONTEXT

T.V.Venkateswaran

Usually when we huddle near a fire, we feel warm and as we move away, that warmth is reduced. But surprisingly the sun and its atmosphere don't follow this rule. Made up of a soup of positively charged protons, negatively charged electrons and other ions mixed with the solar magnetic field, extending somewhere between 10 and 20 solar radii from the surface of the Sun, the solar corona, the atmosphere of the Sun is an enigma. While the surface of the Sun is 5,600 degrees, the corona, interestingly, is about two million degrees. "We have some idea of why it is so, but the problem is not fully resolved," says Dipankar Banerjee, Director of Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES). "Observations from Adtiya L1 will help us understand the dynamics of the Sun and how solar variability impacts the climate on Earth and affects the space weather," he adds.

Monitoring the Sun

Discovered by mathematician Joseph Louis Lagrange, L1 is one of the five points located approximately 1.5 million kilometres away, where the gravitational forces of the Sun and the Earth are in equilibrium. Hence, a spacecraft placed at L1 orbits the Sun at the same rate as Earth and affords an uninterrupted view of the Sun, making it an ideal observation post for space-based solar observatories.

The L1 is currently home to the European Space Agency (ESA)- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) observing the Sun and its dynamics. Aditya L1 will join this observatory to unravel the mysteries of the dynamics of the Sun.

Launched on September 2, the craft will undergo five orbit-raising manoeuvres before being slingshot to the L1 point. The ship will coast for about four months before it reaches L1. At that stage, the thrusters will be fired to make the craft circle around the L1, placing it in what is known as a halo orbit around L1. From this vantage point, Aditya L1 can observe the Sun 24X7 using its four remote sensing payloads, and measure in-situ the various parameters of space weather.

To understand climate variability

Like a heartbeat, solar activity is measured in terms of the number of sunspots. Sunspots are cooler regions on the Sun's surface which increase and decrease in a cycle of 11 years. When the Sun is active, the number of sunspots is in the hundreds, and at solar minimum, the numbers are nearly zero. However, according to Anamparambu Ramaprakash, who is with the Pune-based Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, "despite the variation in solar activity, the emission in visible and long wavelengths is nearly steady. Whatever changes we observe in the solar radiation, nearly 80% occur in the ultraviolet range," he says. The Earth's upper atmosphere absorbs most of the solar UV rays. "The absorbed energy affects the atmosphere's composition, temperature and other parameters. It is imperative to know how far variation in the UV rays emitted by the Sun contributes to climate variability on Earth," he adds.

The Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) developed by the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics, in close collaboration with the ISRO, the Center of Excellence in Space Sciences India, Mohanpur, the Manipal Academy of Higher Education etc, will observe the UV radiation from different zones of the solar atmosphere. The onboard intelligence system will detect any sudden appearance of bright spots, such as solar flares (a sudden burst of high energy visible light, UV rays, X rays and Gamma rays) on the disc. The automated system will trigger the rapid imaging of different layers, and thus, we will obtain a 3D tomographic view of the Sun. "With this system in place, the event's progression through the layers of the solar atmosphere can be imaged," says Mr. Ramaprakash. Combining the data from the Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer (SoLEXS) and the High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS) developed by the ISRO's Bengaluru based U. R. Rao Satellite Centre with SUIT, " can [help us] gain insights into the emergence, progression and energetics of transient events on the surface of the Sun in the UV region".

Observing the Sun using the SUIT will enable us to better understand climate variation on Earth. "Earth's climate has definitely changed. Global warming is real. The data from SUIT and other papers of Aditya L1 will help us resolve the contribution of natural and anthropogenic factors driving climate change," says Mr. Ramprakash.

Looking deeper

At times, the Sun sneezes. Like a tongue of fire, a chunk of the corona suddenly accelerates and leaps into interplanetary space. Called Coronal Mass ejection (CME), this cloud consisting of billion tonnes of energetic plasma mixed with a solar magnetic field is hurled at 250 kilometres per second to 3,000 km/s.

Usually, the corona is not visible in the glare of the radiant Sun, except during the brief moment of a total solar eclipse. However, solar physicists can create artificial eclipses in the solar telescope, called coronograph, to observe the corona. Hitherto, no space telescope could peer at the inner corona, closer to the Sun. "They could look at either 1.1 solar radii or larger," says Ravindra Belur, Professor of Solar Physic at the Bengaluru-based Indian Institute of Astrophysics. "However, theoretical study indicates that the acceleration of the coronal mass ejection happens below 1.1 solar radii," he adds. With no insight into the solar corona's inner part dynamics, we are yet to fully understand the mechanism that drives the CMEs.

The Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) developed by the Bengaluru-based Indian Institute of Astrophysics in close collaboration with the ISRO can peek as close as 1.05 solar radii, a region never imaged by any solar telescope. From 1.05, it can scan upto three solar radii. With this unique capability of VELC, "we can get crucial information about the mechanism responsible for CME acceleration," says Mr. Ravindra.

When a solar storm brews

Along with sunlight and electromagnetic radiation, such as ultraviolet rays, the Sun emits a constant stream of charged particles and a mixture of solar magnetic fields that travel throughout interplanetary space. Called a solar wind, the average speed of the flow near the Earth is about 300 kilometres per second. The solar wind constantly rams the Earth's magnetosphere, which functions like a shield and deflects most of it. Nevertheless, the energetic particles from the solar wind sneak through the weak magnetic regions of the Earth – the north and south poles and interact with the molecules in the atmosphere, creating the dazzling display of aurora.

Violent eruptions like solar flares and CMEs trigger a strong wind or solar storm. A geomagnetic storm occurs when the solar storm bashes the Earth's magnetosphere. While brilliant, beautiful auroras appear as more energetic particles flow through the north and south poles, GPS and short-wave communication are disrupted, and the electronics in the satellite are in danger. Intense geomagnetic storms can induce magnetic-induced currents in the power grid and pipelines, resulting in power outages and fire. The energy from the charged particles heats the upper atmosphere, increasing the density and causing extra drag on satellites in low-earth orbit.

The changes in the solar wind's density, speed and direction is called space weather. Solar storms result in inclement space weather. Aditya L1 will function as a space weather station. The Aditya Solar Wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX) developed by the ISRO's Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory, the Plasma Analyser Package For Aditya (PAPA) developed by the Thiruvananthapuram based Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre and the advanced Tri-axial High-Resolution Digital Magnetometers developed by the Bengaluru based ISRO's Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems keep a constant watch over the parameters of space weather near Aditya L1. Using the data from these instruments, scientists can predict probable geomagnetic storms and better understand space weather dynamics.

"Near Earth environ is filled with hundreds of satellites and the change in the space weather can affect them directly. The trajectory can be deflected by impact of a solar storm on upper atmosphere. ISRO alone has 50,000 crore worth of space assets," says Mr. Dipankar. Understanding space weather is an international issue, and the data from Adtiya L1 will aid in making models and predicting storms in advance.

T.V. Venkateswaran is Scientist at Vigyan Prasar, Dept of Science and Technology

Take off: The ISRO launches solar mission, Aditya-L1 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on September 2. ANI

THE GIST

Discovered by mathematician Joseph Louis Lagrange, L1 is one of the five points located approximately 1.5 million kilometres away, where the gravitational forces of the Sun and the Earth are in equilibrium. Hence, a spacecraft placed at L1 orbits the Sun at the same rate as Earth and affords an uninterrupted view of the Sun.

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The changes in the solar wind's density, speed and direction is called space weather. Solar storms result in inclement space weather. Aditya L1 will function as a space weather station.

Police crack burglary case, recover valuables worth ₹1.5 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Pulakeshinagar police cracked a theft case reported in an apartment and recovered valuables worth ₹1.5 crore from the house of one of the suspects, who was found dead during the course of the investigation.

The deceased has been identified as Jeevan Vergese, 43. According to the police, he used to work as a driver at the house of a woman who worked as a VP at an MNC and was living in an apartment at Pulakeshinagar.

Jeevan, along with other domestic help, had been accused of stealing valuables worth ₹2.5 crore on August 17 and the police had questioned Jeevan along with others. While the police began to strongly suspect Jeevan's role in the theft, he was found dead on August 21. The police recovered a seven-page note written in Malayalam from his pocket, in which he accused his employer and his wife for him taking the extreme step and even accused the police of harassing him.

The police registered a case of abetment to suicide against the employer. A team of police was sent to Jeevan's house in Kerala to keep a watch on his wife and other family members. After several days of efforts, the police managed to recover a total of 38 items, including gold jewels and other expensive articles along with foreign currency.

The police found fingerprint marks on the stolen jewel box which was recovered from his house in Kerala. The police have now issued a notice to Jeevan's wife for questioning.

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम अस्पताल, एजुकोंन, कोल्लम, केरल 691505
(श्रम एव राजगार मत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION HOSPITAL,
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
EZHUKONE, KOLLAM, KERALA - 691505
दूरभाष/Phone: 0474 – 2522454, 2529200 ईमेल/Email: ms-ezhukone.ke@esic.nic.in
वेब साइट/Website: www.esic.gov.in
No. 545/A/11/11/Gr. A&B/CHE/10/Adm Date : 04.09.2023

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION - WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

The Medical Superintendent, ESIC Hospital Ezhukone invites application for the post of medical officers on contract basis for Senior Residents, Full Time/ Part Time Specialists in different specialties.

Date of Walk-in-interview - 20.09.2023 - 10:00 AM
at ESIC Hospital Ezhukone.

For details, please refer our website **www.esic.gov.in/recruitments**

Sd/- **Medical Superintendent**

Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board
Office of the Chief Engineer
Jalamandali Compound, Sir.M. Vishveshvarayya Road,Dharwad-580 001
Tel No: 0836-2447090 E-mail: kwbcen@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tender for the following work is invited (two cover system) through e-Procurement portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agency / contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria. **This office Tender Notification No: 995 Dated: 02-09-2023. Providing Water Supply System to Dandeli City, Mundagod, Savanur and Hirekerur Towns under AMRUT 2.O"** including Operation & Maintenance for a Period of 5 Years (Including 1 year DLP) through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) Mode. **(Lumpsum Tender – No Variation) INDENT:KUWSDB/2023-24/WS/WORK_INDENT47** For further information visit e-procurement portal or the Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may be contacted.

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER,
DIPR/Dwd/238/2023-24/DeshpandePublicity KUWS & D BOARD, DHARWAD.

MAHARASHTRA JEEVAN PRADHIKARAN
e-Tender Notice 21. (3rd Call) for 2023-24

Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran invites e-tender notice for the work of "Providing and constructing R.C.C. Elevated Service Reservoirs at various locations in Ambernath & Badlapur cities, providing, lowering, laying and jointing leading mains, rising mains of various dia in Ambernath & Badlapur Under Aug. to Ambernath-Badlapur Water Supply Scheme" Tal. Ambernath, Dist. Thane in the State of Maharashtra, valued at Rs. 18,78,13,041/- (Rs. Eighteen Crores Seventy Eight Lakhs Thirteen Thousand Forty one Only) The e-Tender details are available on www.mahatenders.gov.in from dated 04/09/2023.

All relevant dates of tender procedure will be as per the tender published in web portal www.mahatenders.gov.in

Place:- Ambernath
Date:- 31/08/2023

sd/-
Executive Engineer,
DGIPR/2023/2024/3289 MJPWM Dn.,Ambernath

High Court of Karnataka
Bengaluru
No.: D.E.04/2022 HCE 39(08)/2021 Date: 31.08.2023

NOTICE

Sri G. Lokesha, Second Division Assistant working in the High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru is hereby intimated that a Specially Empowered Authority has conducted the Disciplinary Enquiry against him and submitted final report dated **19.05.2023** in D.E. 04/2022 (HCE 39(08)/2021) holding that charges leveled against him has proved for his unauthorized absence from 19.07.2021 to till date. Accordingly a Show Cause Notice dated 03.06.2023 has been issued through RPAD by calling explanation. But, the said official was failed to receive the same nor reported to duty in this office. Therefore, Sri G.Lokesha, Second Division Assistant is hereby directed to submit his reply to the Show Cause Notice dated 03.06.2023 and to report duty immediately. Otherwise ex-parte orders will be passed against him as per Rules.

Sd/-
(K.S. BHARATH KUMAR)
Registrar General
High Court of Karnataka,
Bengaluru
DIPR/DD-C.P/1169/MCA/2023-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners **(a) Dr. G.M. NAGARAJ, S/o late G. Mahadevappa** and his children namely, **(b) Smt. SUMANA, (c) Smt. NIRUPANA DINESH, (d) Smt. N. SAVITHA, (e) Sri N. NAVEENKUMAR,** residing at: No.65, Darabendre Marga, Aishwarya Nagar, Kuvempu Nagar 2nd Stage, Near S.K Developers, Mysore–570023. **(f) Dr. RAKESH,** S/o late Dr.M.Chandrasekara, residing at No.1077, Sir.M.Vishweshwariah Layout, 4th Block, Chikka Basti, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore–560056; and **(g) Dr. C. POORNIMA D/o late Dr. M. Chandrasekara** and **W/o Dr. R. Bhanumurthi,** residing at No.266, 13th Main Road, MPM Layout, Bangalore–560056.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal Nos.60 (PID No.50-1-60), 61 (PID No.50-1-61), 61-A (PID No.50-1-61-A), 61/1 (PID No.50-1-61/1) and 61/1-1 (PID No.50-1-61/1-1), in all measuring East to West 80 ft and North to South 40 ft, with old houses thereon, situated at Middle School Road, V.V.Puram, Bangalore-560004 and bounded on:

East by : 2nd Cross Road
West by : Conservancy
North by : Property bearing Municipal No.62
South by : Sri. Basavarajappa's House

Sd/- **S.F. Goutam Chand**
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru -560 004

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division West Zone,
Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises,
2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru - 20.
No: EE/PW/TEND/04/2023-24/Call-2 Date: 04.09.2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(SERVICE TENDER)
(Through **GOK kpp Portal** only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer (Project West) BBMP, Bengaluru invites Bids on Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, for the following Services from Reputed Service Provider for the below work through e-procurement portal www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Name of the Work	Estimate Amount (in ₹.)	EMD Amount (in ₹.)
Providing Cleaning Staff to BBMP Schools and Colleges of West Zone on Outsourced Bais	**94,95,185/-**	**1,90,000/-**

Calendar of Events

1.	Date of Commencement of Down-load of Document from eprocurement website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in	From 06.09.2023 Onwards
2.	Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting:	08.09.2023 at 3:00 pm
3.	Last Date and Time for Uploading Tenders in e-procurement portal	16.09.2023 upto 4:00 pm
4.	Date and Time of Opening of Tenders in the e-portal	19.09.2023 at 11:00 am

This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP Website: www.bbmp.gov.in. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project-West

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ಎಲ್ಲಾ ತರಹದ ಜುಬ್ಬಾ, ಪೈಜಾಮ, ಮೋದಿ ಕೋಟ್ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತವೆ.
Mobile : 73495 98454
SUKHI ARCADE, 175, Chickpet Main Road, Bangalore - 560 053.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AJIT Suryakant Phadnis, R/O J–501, Sumadhura Silver Ripples, Borewell Road, Nallurhalli, Whitefield, Blr– 66, have changed my son name from Nilay Phadnis to Nilay Ajit Phadnis vide afdvt dtd 04/09/23

REAL ESTATE

PURVA BLUEBELLE Adjacent to Magadi road Metro station (purple lane) Rajajinagar 3 bedroom Jodi units 5 bedroom + servant room with all luxurious Amenities for Sale Contact : 9844027560

RENTAL

VIJAYANAGAR NR. Maruti Mandir Ready To Occupy, Independent 3BHK, GF/ CCP/ 24Hrs Water. Mob : 8939751197

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE V ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL FAMILY JUDGE AT BANGALORE
M.C. No. 1926/2023

BETWEEN: Smt. Divya Bharathi ... PETITIONER
AND: Sri Jayanth ... RESPONDENT
NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENTS UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF C.P.C

To, **Sri Jayanth,** S/o Radhakrishna, aged about 32 years, Residing at No.38, (6-a & 66) 1st B cross, Banashankari 3rd stage, Mukambika Nagar, Hosakerehalli, Bengaluru-560085.

Whereas the Petitioner have filed the case under section 13 (1) (i-a) (ib) of Hindu marriage Act against the Respondent and other reliefs. Hence, you are hereby directed to appear in person or through your pleader on **03/11/2023** at **11:00 A.M** before the Hon'ble court to answer the said case. Take notice, that in default of your appearance the said case will be heard and determined ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of this Hon'ble Court on this 30/08/2023

By order of the Court, Sheristedar, Family Court, Bengaluru.

RAMADEVI & LATHA, Advocate No. 448, 11th 'B' Cross, 25th Main, J.P. Nagar, 1st Phase, Bengaluru.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE, MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH 75)
O.S, No. 25846/2023

BETWEEN:
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
MITTAL TOWER, M.G.Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Mr.Pramod G, Aged about 47 years S/o Mr. Gurumallappa
...PLAINTIFF

AND
Mr. HABIBULLA KHAN
S/o Mr. Zia Ulla Khan Aged About 49 Years No.434. 2nd Floor, 30th A Cross, Tilaknagar, Jayanagar, 4th T Block Bengaluru- 560011
...DEFENDANT

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 7,82,298.59/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Eight Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Eight and Paisa Fifty Nine Only)** apart from future interest of 24%, in **O.S.No. 25846/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 75** Before Addl. City Civil and session Judge, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **07th** Day of **October 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **28th** day of **August 2023**.

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil, Court
Mayoiall,
BENGALURU- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No.9, Old No.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE, MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH 75)
O.S. No. 25658/2023

BETWEEN :
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Mr.Pramod G, Aged about 47 years S/o Mr. Gurumallappa
...PLAINTIFF

AND:
Mr. ALWYN SHANTHA KUMAR S/o Mr. Selivaimuthu Rathalaswamy Bernad Aged About 33 Years No.16, Ground Floor, 4th Cross, Hoysala Nagar, Ramamurthy Nagar Bengaluru- 560016
...DEFENDANT

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of Rs.3,00,741.80/-(Rupees Three Lakhs Seven Hundred Forty One and Paisa Eighty Only) apart from future interest of 24%, in O.S.No.25658/2023 and same is pending adjudication in CCH 75 Before Addl., City Civil and session Judge, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon 'ble Court on the 07th day of October, 2023 at 11:00 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 28th day of August,2023.

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
BENGALURU- 560001

Fx & Co.,
Advocates,
New No. 9 Old No. 11/1
Gover Rosd, Cox Town
Bengaluru-560005

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE, MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH 75)
O.S. No.25787/2023

BETWEEN:
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
MITTAL TOWER, M.G.Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Mr.Pramod G, Aged about 47 years S/o Mr. Gurumallappa
...PLAINTIFF

AND
Mr. Taveer Alam Noor Alam Shaikh Slo Mr. Noor Alam Hamid Shaikh Aged About 29 Years, No.33, Rana Building, Near Oye Amritsar Hotel, 7th Block, Kormangala Bengaluru-560029 ...DEFENDANT

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.7,19,857.29 (Rupees Seven Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Seven and Paisa Twenty Nine Only)** apart from future interest of 24%, in **O.S.No. 25787/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 75** Before Addl., City Civil and Session Judge, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **09th** Day of **October 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **25th** day of **August 2023**.

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil, Court
Mayohall,
BENGALURU- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No.9, Old No.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल. 33004/99 REGD. No. D.L. - 33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.- 24082023-248306
CG - DL - E - 24082023-248306
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग- II - खण्ड- 3 - उप खण्ड- (ii)
PART II - Section -3 - Sub section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. - 3593] नई दिल्ली, बुधवार, अगस्त 23, 2023 / भाद्र 1, 1945
No. 3593] NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023 / BHADRA 1, 1945

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL LAND ACQUISITION OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY
NATIONAL HIGHWAYS 73 AND 275, FIRST FLOOR, VITTAL ARCADE BUILDING, NEAR KOTTARA CHOWKI, DEREBAIL VILLAGE, ASHOKANAGAR POST, MANGALORE-575006.
Ph: 0824-2423344, Email: slaonhmlr@gmail.com

No. LAQ CR 14/2023-24 Date: 01.09.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3D(1) and (2) of the National Highways Act,1956 (48 of 1956) and the Amendment Act, 1997, the Government of India vide its Gazette Notification No.S.O.3753 (E) dated the 23rd August 2023 published the following notification the lands are covered by **National Highway No. 275 km. 0.00 to 71.600 (Mani – Mysore-Bangalore)** required for land acquisition for road construction (widening/ two lane with paved shoulder/four lane etc.) **in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka state.** Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) (2) (3) and (4) of section 3(G) of the Highways Act and the amendment of 1997, it is hereby notified to the landlords mentioned in the schedule and to the persons having interest in the said lands that as the lands mentioned in the schedule have been confiscated by the Central Government for the above purpose, the relevant official documents for deciding and paying the compensation for the said lands, i.e.original deed of the land (2) copy of the order in case of land conversion,(3) purchase/ sale/other documents, (4) present R.T.C. (5) Copy of mutation and receipt of payment of revenue and compensation claimed (with suitable justification) at the time and date mentioned in this notice either by you or through your authorized representative or their advocates, before the **Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Officer, National Highway-73 & 275, First Floor, Vittal Arcade Building, Near Kottara Chowki, Derebail Village, Ashokanagar Post Office, Mangalore-575006.** A personal request should be presented before him along with the application.

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Taluk	Name of the Village	Date & Time
1	DAKSHINA KANNADA	PUTTUR	ARIYADKA	21-09-2023 (11-00 AM)
2			ARYAPU	
3			VOLAMOGRU	
4		SULLIA	SAMPAJE	
5			SULLIA	

Sd/-
Manikya N. (KAS)
Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority
Indian National Highways 73 and 275,
Kottara Chowki, Mangalore.

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 23rd August, 2023

S.O. 3753(E).—Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 1095(E) Dated: 09/04/2023, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub- section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening / two lane with paved shoulder / four laning etc.), Maintenance, management and operation of **NH 275 in the stretch of land from design Km 0.00 to Km. 71.600 (Mani - Mysore - Bangalore Section) in the district of DAKSHINA KANNADA in the state of KARNATAKA.**

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in **"Vijaya karnataka" and "The Hindu" both dated 16.05.2023;** under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas objections have been received and the same have been considered and disallowed by the competent Authority; And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the competent authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the competent authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.The land owners can submit their statements if any, along with relevant property documents to the below address.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling within the stretch of land from Km. 0.00 to Km. 71.600 (Mani - Mysore - Bangalore Section) of National Highway 275 in the District of DAKSHINA KANNADA in the state of KARNATAKA.

STATE: KARNATAKA				DISTRICT: DAKSHINA KANNADA	
Sl. No.	Survey Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area in Hectare	Name of the Land Owner / Interested Person
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk: Puttur					
Name of the Village : Ariyadka					
1	195/3	Private	Garden	0.0161880	Isubu S/o Omoidu Kunhi
2	195/4	Private	Dry	0.0222585	Isubu S/o Omoidu Kunhi
Village:Aryapu					
3	77/2B	Private	Wet	0.0212468	A P Radhakrishna S/o A P Govinda Bhat and Others
4	77/4A	Private	Garden	0.0718343	A P Radhakrishna S/o A P Govinda Bhat and Others
5	77/4B	Private	Garden	0.0303525	A P Radhakrishna S/o A P Govinda Bhat and Others
6	77/9B	Private	Dry	0.0323760	A P Radhakrishna S/o A P Govinda Bhat and Others
Village:Olamogaru					
7	45/4	Private	Wet	0.0445170	Hasainar S/o Abbu Byari
8	45/5	Private	Wet	0.0283290	Abdulla S/o Bapa Kunhi
9	45/6	Private	Wet	0.0202350	M Abbas S/o Kunhi Ahmed
10	68/1A1	Private	Dry	0.0404700	Gopalakrishna Bhat A S/o Harikrishna Bhat
11	68/1A2	Private	Dry	0.0121410	Abbasbyari S/o Kunhali Ahmed
12	68/1A3	Private	Dry	0.1112925	Gopalakrishna Bhat A S/o Harikrishna Bhat
13	69/1	Private	Wet	0.0343995	Hasainar S/o Abbur Byari
14	69/2	Private	Wet	0.0010118	Hasainar S/o Abbur Byari
15	69/3	Private	Wet	0.0222585	M Abbas S/o Kunhi Ahmed
16	69/4	Private	Wet	0.0252938	Ismail S/o Bapa Kunhi
17	69/5	Private	Wet	0.0040470	Ashraf K S/o Abdulla
18	69/6	Private	Wet	0.0050587	Sajidak D/o Abdulla
Taluk:Sulya					
Village:Sampaje					
19	130/1	Private	Dry	0.0323760	Kusuma W/o U B Vasanth Kumar and Others
20	131/1A1 A1A1	Private	Dry	0.0040470	Saraswathi W/o Balakrishna A
21	44/1B1	Private	Dry	0.1011750	Kusuma W/o U B Vasanthkumar
Village: Sullia					
22	122/1A	Private	Wet	0.0020235	Najimma W/o Yousuf and Others
23	122/5	Private	Dry/NAK	0.0020235	Najimma W/o Panaje Yousuf and Others
24	122/8	Private	Wet	0.0020235	Najimma W/o Yousuf and Others
			Total	0.6869784	

[F.No.RW/NH-12037/11/2021-22/KNT/Zone-III-I/3D]
ABHAY JAIN, Dy. Secy.

KEYWORD

Heated debate: A young woman wears an Abaya as she crosses a street in Nantes, western France on August 31. AFP

Understanding *Laïcité*, the French principle of secularism

It involves the complete removal of religious values from the public sphere and their replacement with secular values such as liberty, equality, and fraternity. The underlying goal of Laïcité is to implant tolerance and assimilate people

Radhika Santhanam

Recently, the French government announced that the practice of wearing abaya would be banned in state-run schools as it violated the principle of *Laïcité*, which is the French idea of secularism. The education minister said, "When you walk into a classroom, you shouldn't be able to identify the pupils' religion just by looking at them. Secularism means the freedom to emancipate oneself through school." He described the abaya as a "religious gesture, aimed at testing the resistance of the republic towards the secular sanctuary that school must be."

The move was met with criticism by many. Some said that this amounts to a policing of teenagers' clothing (public schools in France do not have a uniform). Some said that it was an attack on freedom and women's bodies. Others said that this was yet another instance of *Laïcité* being used as a tool of oppression rather than assimilation.

The meaning of Laïcité

Coined in the 19th century, *Laïcité* is a complicated and politically charged term. It is understood as a formal separation of the State and Church. It involves the complete removal of religious values from the public sphere and their replacement with secular values such as liberty, equality, and fraternity. The underlying goal of *Laïcité* is to implant tolerance and assimilate people. As per the principle, religion is to be confined to the private sphere. It is important to note here that the state plays an important role in ensuring that affairs are run according to the principle of *Laïcité*.

Laïcité, a product of the struggle of anti-clerical Republicans against the power of the Catholic Church, was an abstract idea following the French Revolution in 1789. It took a concrete shape in the form of The Law of 1905 in the Third Republic when state-run secular schools were established. The Law of 1905 guarantees freedom of conscience and freedom of worship except when it clashes with public order. It states that the Republic would neither pay for nor subsidise any form of worship. Today, while there are publicly funded Catholic schools in France, most children attend public schools which are secular spaces and free of cost.

Change in demographics

Laïcité was not seen as problematic for the most part of the 20th century because France was largely homogenous. In the 1950s and 1960s, however, there was large-scale decolonisation in North Africa, which led to an influx of immigrants from predominantly Muslim countries such as Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria. The change in demographics caused episodic tensions.

The incident that particularly rattled France and drew extensive press coverage was in 1989 when three Muslim girls, who refused to remove their head scarves in class, were expelled from their school in the town of Creil, about 48 kilometres from Paris. The headmaster claimed that he was enforcing *Laïcité*. Muslim leaders as well as Catholic leaders decried the move, arguing that *Laïcité* meant respect for and tolerance of religious differences among students. The confusion over the term was clear, for the incident was both condoned and opposed in the name of *Laïcité*. In November that year, the Supreme Court ruled that the headscarf was not incompatible with the principle of *Laïcité*.

This incident, in particular, brought Islam to the centre of the debate. Over the next few decades, global developments, such as the 9/11 attack and the invasion of Afghanistan by the U.S., and domestic ones, such as the rise of the National Front, which was avowedly anti-immigration; the shooting of journalists at Charlie Hebdo; and the killing of three people at a church in the city of Nice all contributed to this and arguably led to anti-Muslim sentiment.

Following the recommendation of the Stasi Commission, which was set up to reflect upon the application of the *Laïcité* principle, France passed a law in 2004 prohibiting the wearing of "ostentatious" symbols that have a clear religious meaning, such as a Catholic dress, a Jewish kippah, or a Muslim headscarf, in public spaces. In 2011, France banned the wearing of face-covering veils in public places. Every such controversial decision of the French state in the name of *Laïcité* has led to new interpretations of the principle. Although *Laïcité* applies to all religions – there was a row in 2012 when a Sikh man was asked to remove his turban for an official photograph – the debate has increasingly moved to Muslim practices in the last few decades.

In 2015, a Muslim girl in France was banned from class for wearing a long black skirt that was seen as "too openly religious" despite the 2004 law allowing for "discreet religious practices" and the girl arguing that it was not a "religious sign." In 2018, there was an outcry when a student wore a headscarf during a television interview in her university campus even though this is not illegal in France (headscarves are allowed in universities since students are adults). In 2020, following the beheading of a school teacher for showing cartoons depicting Prophet Mohammed, French President Emmanuel Macron banned homeschooling for children over three years old and asked Muslim leaders to agree to a "charter of republic values" as part of a broad clampdown on radical Islam. Long garments like abayas have been seen as a grey area so far, since Muslim groups have said that an abaya is not "required religious attire" but is in fact a fashionable garment tied to Arab culture. These incidents have led to the belief that promoting discrimination against Muslims has become acceptable under the guise of *Laïcité*.

A different approach?

Yet, despite efforts to ensure secularism, 36% of French people said in a survey in 2022 that they believe that secularism was "rather not sufficiently" being defended in France, while 21% said it was "not at all" being defended.

The question now is whether *Laïcité* actually helps people integrate into society or whether it is being used as a tool to oppress communities. Do people have to give up their own traditions and practices in order to assimilate (Mr. Macron said there was a need to "free Islam in France from foreign influences" and build an "Islam of Enlightenment")? Or should France let religious identities "dissolve into more diversified practices and identities" (Roy, 2005; translated by Yolande Jansen) in order to ensure integration, which would be a challenge to the principle of *Laïcité* itself?

Mr. Macron said, "A united France is cemented by *Laïcité*." Yet, there is some concern that a tool to prevent social fissures and promote universalism may, in fact, cause more fractures if there is a rigid, unyielding commitment to it.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

As powerful typhoons and hurricanes loom over shorelines around the world, let's take a look at the scales used to measure their strength

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

Name the wind-speed scale first developed in 1969, with modifications bringing it into its modern form in 1971, to assess the likely impact on low-cost housing of a storm affecting coastal parts of the U.S.

QUESTION 2

In 2010, this scale was modified to remove flooding, _____ _____, and rainfall from its calculation. Fill in the blanks with a major event associated with cyclonic storms when the water level rises higher than the normal height of a high tide.

QUESTION 3

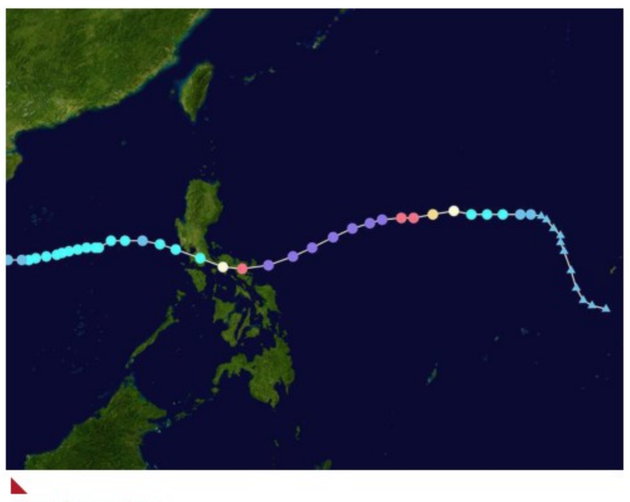
The locations of the world's major storms are divided into seven basins. The scale measures the wind-speed of storms in two of them. In which of these basins has a storm never made landfall with the scale's highest rating?

QUESTION 4

The scale uses a minute-long average of the maximum sustained wind speeds to classify a hurricane. What is the duration of the average the India Meteorological Department uses to categorise cyclonic storms?

QUESTION 5

A hurricane is a strong cyclonic storm if it is located in the northeastern Pacific Ocean. What is it called when it moves into the northwestern part of the ocean?



Visual question:
This map shows the path of a typhoon in 2020 that made landfall over Taiwan with the highest level on the scale recorded to date in this basin. Name it. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Beyonce won a Houston talent show by singing this John Lennon song. **Ans: Imagine**
2. This singing group made their debut on a reality show where they lost to this group. **Ans: Girls Tyme, and they lost to Skeleton Crew**
3. Beyonce was the first female solo artist to headline this event in 20 years. **Ans: Glastonbury festival in 2011**
4. Beyonce made an appearance at a Lip Sync Battle challenge in which these two people were competing. **Ans: Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan**
5. This act headlined the Super Bowl where Beyonce and Bruno Mars performed together. **Ans: Coldplay**
6. This horsefly's scientific name which was named after Beyonce. **Ans: Scaptia beyonceae**
Visual: The number of Grammy wins Beyonce has. **Ans: 32**
Early Birds: Sumeet Parmar| Adeeba Nisar| Shubhi Verma

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, Mrs. K. R. Barua, Dibrugarh, wants to know the meaning of 'pizzazz'."

" 'Pizzazz' is slang meaning 'zest', 'liveliness'.

The dance was lacking in pizzazz.

The 'i' is pronounced like the 'i' in 'bid', the 'a' like the 'a' in 'man'."

"Sir, Mr. M. K. Naik wants to know whether 'impact' can be used as a verb."

"It is used as a verb. 'To impact' means 'to press or fix firmly', 'affect', 'influence'.

As usual, the Government says that the budget will not impact hard on the public."

"Sir, Dr. P. S. Krishnamurthy wants to know how to use 'weakness', 'weariness' and 'lassitude'."

" 'Weakness' is the opposite of 'strength'.

He is not able to walk because of weakness.

Weakness is also used to mean 'a strong liking, especially which is bad for one'.

He has a weakness for sweets.

'Weariness' means 'tiredness'.

His weariness is due to the long journey.

'Lassitude' is a formal word which means 'weariness of body or mind'. It also means 'state of being uninterested in things'.

No one is able to account for his lassitude."

"Sir, Mr. A. Abdul Karim, Vellayambalam, Trivandrum, wants to know whether 'per annum' is correct as 'annum' means 'per year'."

" 'Per annum' is a fixed expression. It is correct. You won't find the word 'annum' in isolation in dictionaries. You will find it in some dictionaries under the word 'per'. Per mensem, per diem, per annum, etc. 'Per annum' means 'annually'."

"Sir, Mr. M. Ravichander, 735, Anna Salai, Madras, wants to know the difference between 'die' and 'expire'."

"People don't want to shock others by using the word 'die'. Euphemisms like 'pass away', 'breathe one's last', 'is no more', 'go to a better world' are used to soften the blow. 'Expire' literally means 'to breathe out', 'to come to an end'. 'Expire' is a euphemism for 'die'. But the person who 'expires' is no different from the one who 'dies'! There are certain contexts where only 'expire' is used. In the sense of 'come to an end'.

Your subscription to the magazine expires next month.

My driving licence expires in September."

"Sir, Mr. B. Parvatala Rao, Public Relations Officer, Andhra Bank, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad, has sent a copy of the letter he has sent to the Chief Officer, Stationery Department Andhra Bank, Vidyanagar, Hyderabad. Here it is: 'I invite your kind attention to the item 'Know Your English' published in The Hindu, dated 21- 3-89, copy of which is enclosed. It was pointed out that it should be withdrawal and not withdrawl, This is for favour of necessary action for correction at your end'. He has also thanked the reader, Mr. B. Ravishankar, for drawing attention to the error."

"The prompt action of the PRO is commendable. Also I greatly appreciate his thanking the reader."

Published in The Hindu on April 4, 1989

Word of the day

Putative:
purported; commonly put forth or accepted as true on inconclusive grounds

Synonym: acknowledged

Usage: *He is the putative author of the book.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/putativepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈpju.tə.tɪv/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

BBMP Chief Engineer directs officials to carry out safety and structural audit of buildings

This assumes significance after a fire accident at the Quality Control and Laboratory office in the BBMP head office last month

THE HINDU IMPACT

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Annexure 3 building of the BBMP in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

After *The Hindu* reported on September 2 about one of the office buildings of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) not having a no-objection certificate (NOC) from the Fire Department and a building plan, Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure), BBMP, B.S. Prahlad directed officials to submit safety audit reports of all buildings of the civic body.

This assumes significance in the wake of a fire accident that occurred at the Quality Control and Laboratory Office in the head office last month in which a chief engineer was killed and eight others were injured. The office is located at Annexure 2 building. For the Annexure 3 building, which has six floors, the BBMP has not applied for an NOC from the Fire Department as it does not have fire safety measures. The building that came up in 2010 does not even have a building plan.

Mr. Prahlad has now directed officials across eight BBMP zones to carry out safety and structural audits of all the buildings on properties of the civic body. There are more than 15 big buildings, including the Unity Building, the Utility Complex in Jayanagar and others. Most of the buildings are old and do not have fire safety measures. The officials have been asked to submit the report within 15 days. However, sources say that it may not be possible to complete the report in such a short span. Mr. Prahlad said the approved building plan is mandatory for all the buildings and fire safety too. As buildings were old, some norms were not followed and the report will bring errors to light. After studying the report, measures will be taken to ensure the implementation of fire safety measures, he said, adding that the BBMP will work towards ensuring zero accidents in the buildings.

A source in the BBMP said the Multipurpose Engineering Department (MPED) has prepared a plan to build a fire safety exit at the cost of ₹ 5 crore in Annexure 3 building. The proposal will be sent to the head office for approval. However, the commencement of work may be delayed as no fresh tenders are being issued by the BBMP.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (September 5, Tuesday), the following articles are available:

- Aditya L1: its functioning and purpose
  bit.ly/adityatandc
- A radical idea to settle the universe expansion dispute
  bit.ly/universeexpansion

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated September 5, we have a story on how local scrap dealers could be impacted by the Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) that's coming up following the Union government's introduction of the vehicle scrapping policy. There is also an explainer on how to scrap your end-of-life car at the RVSF.

Gauri kin unhappy with slow pace of trial, activists propose special fast-track court

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Tuesday will mark the sixth anniversary of the assassination of editor-activist Gauri Lankesh outside her home in Bengaluru. The charge sheet was filed five years ago, but the trial in the case is nowhere near conclusion. Gauri's family and activists are unhappy with the pace of the trial.

"It has been five years since the chargesheet was filed, but the trial is dragging on. We are dissatisfied with the pace of the trial. We want a speedy trial. We hope the government ensures the trial is concluded soon, and the culprits are brought to book," said Kavita Lankesh, sister of Gauri.

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) filed a 9,000 plus page chargesheet in November 2018. However, COVID-19 pandemic and a series of petitions by the defence delayed the start of the trial in the designated Karnataka Control of Organised Crimes Act, 2000 (KCOCA) court, which is also the Principal Sessions Court. The trial began as late as March 2022. Three judges have changed since then. At present, proceedings are held for three to five days in a month. The chargesheet lists a total of 530 witnesses of which the deposition of only 83 has been completed in the period since the trial began. If the trial is conducted at the same pace, the case may drag on for several years.

Prof. V. S. Sridhar, a member of the Gauri Memorial Trust, said that, in the interest of justice for all, a speedy trial is the need of the hour, which could be ensured by setting up a special court.

Activist Shivasundar, a close associate of Gauri Lankesh who has been following the trial closely, said the only way the trial could be speeded up is by setting up a special fast-track court to conduct proceedings on a daily basis. "This will not only be fair to Gauri Lankesh, but to the accused as well," he said.

The State government, in concurrence with the High Court of Karnataka, can set up a special court and order fast tracking of the trial. The demand is likely to be put before Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who will be the chief guest at the Gauri Memorial Day event on Tuesday, in Bengaluru.

Ban on meat sale

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BBMP has banned the slaughter of animals and the sale of meat on September 6 in view of Krishna Janmashtami in an order issued on Monday. An official said action will be initiated against those violating the ban.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that our Client proposes to enter into a transaction in respect of the immovable property more particularly described hereunder and referred to herein as the "**Schedule Property**", with its present owner, **Mr. V. Venkata Krishna Reddy**, son of Mr. Venkatarami Reddy, residing at Penthouse – 1, Vars Ferndale Apartments, 1st Main, Kodihalli, HAL II Stage, Bengaluru – 560 008. The said owner has represented that the following original documents pertaining to the Schedule Property have been irretrievably lost and misplaced:

1. Sale Deed dated 28.09.2002, registered on 08.11.2002 as Document No. 9566/2002-03, in Book-I, stored in C.D. No. 59, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapuram, Bengaluru, executed by Mr. N. Ramanujappa, son of Late Mr. Nagappa ('Vendor'), in favour of Mr. V. Venkata Krishna Reddy, son of Mr. Venkatarami Reddy ('Purchaser'), in respect of a portion of the land measuring an extent of 1 Acre 4 Guntas in Survey No. 41 of Doddanekundi Village, comprised in the Schedule Property.
2. Sale Deed dated 24.03.2003, registered on 26.03.2003 as Document No. 20469/2002-03, in Book-I, stored in C.D. No. 79, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapuram, Bengaluru, executed by Mr. N. Ramanujappa, son of Late Mr. Nagappa ('Vendor'), in favour of Mr. V. Venkata Krishna Reddy, son of Mr. Venkatarami Reddy ('Purchaser'), in respect of a portion of the land measuring an extent of 9 Guntas in Survey No. 41 of Doddanekundi Village, comprised in the Schedule Property.

A complaint regarding the loss of the aforementioned original documents was lodged with the Bengaluru City Police, Bengaluru, on 16.12.2022, and the same was registered as Lost Report No. 0416607/2022.

The general public are hereby notified that any person/s having found or having custody of the aforementioned original documents relating to the Schedule Property are called upon to handover and deliver the same forthwith to the undersigned at the address mentioned below; or to lodge their claims or objections, if any, in writing together with documentary proof of such claims, so as to reach us at the address mentioned below within a period of **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of this Notice, failing which it shall be conclusively presumed and deemed that the aforesaid owner has a clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and that none else has any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property; and our Client would be at liberty to proceed to enter into and complete the intended transaction in respect of the Schedule Property. Any objections and/ or claims received after the expiry of the notice period mentioned above shall neither be entertained nor be binding on our Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being land duly converted for non-agricultural residential purposes, presently bearing **Municipal No. 3507**, measuring an extent of **1 Acre 13 Guntas**, forming part of **Survey No. 41 of Doddanekundi Village**, **Marathahalli Hobli**, **Bengaluru East Taluk**, **Bengaluru Urban District**, and bounded as follows:

On the East by : Land bearing Survey No. 24;
On the West by : Land bearing Survey Nos. 26 and 40;
On the North by : Remaining land in Survey No. 41; and
On the South by : Outer Ring Road and land in Survey Nos. 24 and 25.

C.R. Muralidharan, Partner
DUA ASSOCIATES
Advocates & Solicitors
130/1, 2nd Floor, Ulsoor Road,
Bengaluru – 560 042
Phone: 91-80-25588799 / 25589909
E-mail: murali@duaassociates.com

Place: Bengaluru
Dated: 05.09.2023

EAST COAST RAILWAY

(1) Tender No.
SANDT_WAT_23_S_ZONAL_KRPU
Name of Work: SIGNAL ZONAL WORK UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/SIGNAL/KORAPUT IN WALTAIR DIVISION.
Advertised Value: ₹39,58,809.50, EMD: ₹79,200/-

(2) Tender No.
SANDT_WAT_23_S_ZONAL_RGDA
Name of Work: SIGNAL ZONAL WORK UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER/SIGNAL/RAYAGADA IN WALTAIR DIVISION.
Advertised Value: ₹60,71,854/-, EMD: ₹1,21,400/-

Completion Period of the work: 12 Months (For both Tenders).
Bidding Start Date: 05.09.2023 (For both Tenders), Date & time of Tender Closing: 19.09.2023, 1500 hrs. (For both Tenders).
Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.
Complete information including e-Tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website http://www.ireps.gov.in
Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer(Signal)/ Waltair
PR-532/O/23-24

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 35/MYS/2023
Dated: 30.08.2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

SL	Item of Works	Approx. Value
1	**Sub Work-I:** Hassan - Mangaluru Central section: Between Ballupete & Sakleshpur stations. Bridge No. 84 (Existing 1x4.57 m RCC slab) at km 27/900-28/000. Proposed replacement of exg RCC slab with PSC slab to 25t Axle Loading - 2008. **Sub work-II:** Hassan-Mangaluru Junction section: Rehabilitation / Repairs of Bridge No. 419 (2x1.22m - RCC Pipe) at KM.114/200-300 between Yedamangala and Narimogaru stations.	Rs. 2,21,10,374/-
2	**Mysuru-Arsikere section:** Strengthening of Bridges from Km.40.00 to Km.86.4 by providing pitching, flooring, drop wall, steps, ballast retainer etc. (Total 80 No. of bridges).	Rs. 97,94,359/-
3	Haveri-Construction of Type II staff quartes (10 units).	Rs. 1,81,81,746/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 11:00 hrs. of 21.09.2023**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-ord Mysuru
PUB/352/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my clients intend to purchase the property detailed in the schedule below from its owners **Smt. Shabreen Taj W/o Irshad Ali Khan**, If any person has any manner of right, title, interest, claim or objection for sale of the schedule property, may forward your objections along with documentary proof to the undersigned, within **7 days** from the date of this publication. If no objections are received, my clients will proceed to purchase the schedule property and any objections received thereafter, shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing No. 13 (New No.13/1), Assessment No. 38/2, Khatha No. 460, having BBMP PID No.95-80-13-1, situated at Nagavara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 40 feet, consisting of 20 x 40 feet RCC roofed house on the eastern side and 2 ACC sheet roofed sheds on the western side and bounded on :

East by : Portion of Site No.6
West by : Property belongs to B.M. Ramachandraiah
North by : Road
South by : Chikkaguttappas land.

A. SAMPATH, Advocate
No.20, IIIrd Floor,
1st Main Road,Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru 560 009, Mob: 9845151157

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mr. K.K. Narayan Das Son of Mr. Konnam,** Residing at No. 03, Ragavasantham, 2nd Main Binny Mill Road,Ganganagar Extension, R T Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560032 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. He has lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 21-05-1973, document No.827/1973-74, Volume 2418, pages at 159-164, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Gandhinagar, Bangalore pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged **on 04-09-2023 vide Lost Report No.0711846/2023.** I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of House No.2, new Municipal No.3, BBMP PID No.98-73-3 and New Municipal No.3/1, BBMP PID No.98-73-3/1, situated at **2nd Main, Hebbal Mill First Cross, Gangenahalli, Bangalore-560006** with total area of Site No.9, Survey No.19 of 2667.5 sq. feet measuring East to West 55 feet and North to South 48 ½ feet bounded by:

North : House belonging to Smt. Puttamma; South : Road; East : Main Road; West : Vacant site belonging to Sri Ram Singh.

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore-500 020.
Contact : 9740718436

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Superintending Engineer (Elecl.), O & M Circle Office,
Building # 258/2, Ayyappa Nagara, Hubli Road, Sirsi (U.K) - 581402.
Telephone No. : 08384-236968 E-Mail : seesrs.hescom@gmail.com
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) : U31401KA2002SGC030437

Tender Notification (Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Superintending Engineer(Elecl), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Sirsi invites following Service tenders through "Karnataka Public Procurement Portal".

Sl. No.	Type of Services	Service INDENT Nos.
1	Providing 10 workmen (4 skilled+6 unskilled) with one vehicle services for Mansoon period (up to 31.10.2023) maintenance 24 Hrs. X 7 Service attending major breakdowns of 11 kV/LT lines and DTCs in every Sub-divisions of Sirsi Circle in Uttara Kannada District 11 Nos, services	HESCOM/2023-24/SE0013 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0014 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0016 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0015 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0017 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0018 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0009 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0005 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0010 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0011 HESCOM/2023-24/SE0012
2	Providing 10 workmen (4 skilled+6 unskilled) with one vehicle services for maintenance 24 Hrs. X 7 Service attending major breakdowns of 11 kV/LT lines and DTCs in Ramnagar Section in O & M Sub- Division, Dandeli in Dandeli Division of Sirsi Circle in Uttara kannada district. 01 No. service.	HESCOM/2023-24/SE0019

- For further details please visit the website **kppp.karnataka.gov.in**.
- For any clarification please contact this office during office hours.

DIPR/DWD/KSMCA/242/2023-24

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elecl), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Sirsi.

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Inauguration of

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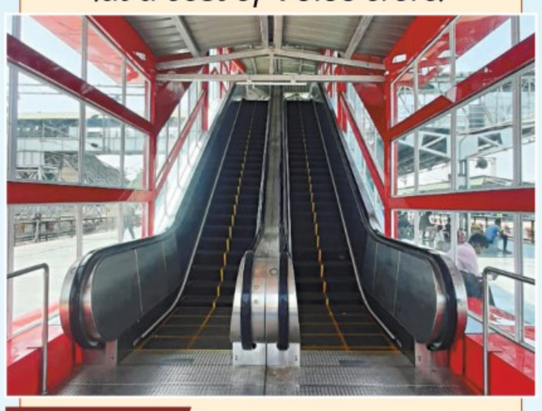

Benefits:

- Improves 'Ease of Access' to passengers including Divyangjan and senior citizens
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Venue: Bangarapet Railway Station
Date: 05.09.2023 | Time: 10:30 am

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Upgraded BEML Nagar Halt Station
(at a cost of ₹ 80 lakhs)

Benefits:

- Halt station upgraded at a cost of ₹ 80 Lakhs with modern facilities (Waiting Hall with attached Toilets, Ticket Booking Office etc.)
- Ramp with railing ensures 'Ease of Access' to Divyangjan and senior citizens
- Attractive facade and beautiful landscaping enhances passenger delight

Venue: BEML Nagar Halt Station
Date: 05.09.2023 | Time: 12:30 pm

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By
S. Muniswamy
Member of Parliament, Kolar

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

PUB/358/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

A BG-BGE

INBRIEF

Centre urged to make drought declaration process flexible

The State government will press the Centre to make drought declaration process flexible that is currently stringent, and the Cabinet sub-committee members will be meeting the functionaries at the Centre for the same.

"Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has already written to the Centre, and has also sought an appointment of the Prime Minister. We are clear that the change is needed. When our Chief Secretary raised the issue at a meeting, the officials of the Centre acknowledged the problem. Flexibility has been sought as weather pattern has become erratic," said Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda.

Meeting sought to hasten Upper Bhadra project

The State's Representative in Delhi T.B. Jayachandra on Monday said that he would seek separate meetings with Water Resources Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and Union Ministers Shobha Karandlaje and Narayanswamy to hasten the works in Upper Bhadra project.

Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Managing Director Sanna Chittaiah said that a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi met last week to discuss on Centre's allocation to the project.

He said that the State has intimated the Centre that it was willing to release ₹500 crore immediately and sought ₹2,000 crore from the Centre.

62 taluks in State qualify to be declared drought-hit as per Centre's parameters

Between June 1 and September 4, as against the normal rainfall of 711 mm, the State received 526 mm resulting in a deficit of 26%

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A total of 62 taluks in the State have been identified to qualify for declaration as drought-hit as per the parameters laid down by the Centre, while the State government has asked for the second ground truthing exercise in taluks where the situation has turned worse since the first ground truthing exercise was conducted.

Between June 1 and September 4, as against the normal rainfall of 711 mm, the State received 526 mm, resulting in a deficit rainfall of 26%.

Another joint survey will be conducted in the rest of the 51 taluks to ascertain their condition again.
FILE PHOTO

Another joint survey

"Of the 113 taluks where joint survey was conducted, 62 taluks have been identified to be eligible to be declared as drought-hit. It has been decided that another joint survey will be conducted in the rest of the 51 taluks to ascertain the condition again," Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told reporters here after chairing the Cabinet sub-committee meeting on drought issues.

He said, "It was also decided that ground truthing exercise will be conducted in another 83 taluks. In all, Deputy Commissioners have been directed to conduct the ground truthing exercise in 134 (51 plus 83) taluks across the State and submit a report within one week. Based on the report, drought-hit taluks will be identified."

He said that the Cabinet sub-committee would be placing the reports before the Cabinet on Thursday where a decision will be taken to declare the drought-hit taluks. "Once the State government notifies the list of drought-hit taluks, the State will approach the Centre for funds from the NDRF. Currently in the SDRF funds, ₹529 crore is available with the Deputy Commissioners while about ₹600 crore is with the government."

Agriculture hit already

Mr. Gowda said that in a majority of places, farmers have suffered losses after sowing has been completed or crops have wilted. "Any rainfall in the coming days is not going to help revive agriculture activities. It will, however, ensure drinking water and fodder availability. In all, 196 taluks have been affected," Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy said.

Stating that most taluks were not facing drinking water problems, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge said that 105 gram panchayats in 34 taluks are facing water shortage. This included 37 villages that are facing acute water shortage. "Contingency plan has been drawn and ₹7 crore has been released already. Besides, zilla panchayats have been given ₹1 crore each," he said.

Nagamohan Das seeks clarity from State govt. on probe into '40% commission' charge

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Former High Court judge Nagamohan Das, who was appointed by the Karnataka government to probe the 40% bribery allegations of contractors during the previous BJP regime, has now sought more clarity from the government on the nature and scope of investigation as the order copy he received had certain "ambiguities."

The Public Works Department (PWD) initially constituted the Nagamohan Das committee to probe allegations about officials and Ministers in the previous government taking 40% commission from contractors. The order stipulated a time of 30 days and directed the committee to investigate large scale works in various departments including PWD, Urban Development Department and Panchayat Raj and Rural Development and Irrigation Department. However, the department modified the order, turning the committee into commission. In the modified order, the government also gave three months' time to complete the probe.

Nagamohan Das

Mr. Nagamohan Das, talking to *The Hindu*, said about two days back senior officials from the Public Works Department visited him with the order copy. "After I read the order copy, I found certain ambiguities about the probe which I cannot share. I specifically asked the officials to provide clarification on the aspects I raised. The officials said they would give clarity and will come back again."

Mr. Nagamohan Das said he had also asked the officials whether Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is excluded from his scope as four different Special Investigation Teams (SITs) are probing. He further said it may not feel right for two agencies to probe one department simultaneously. The PWD will also clarify the same.

Dedicated office

The government will be providing a dedicated office to conduct the probe and Mr. Nagamohan Das is likely to hire financial and technical experts. As the nature of the work is civil, engineers will be roped in for the investigation.

This order comes at a time when the State government led by Congress and contractors have been engaged in a face-off over clearance of bills.

Officials directed to spend ₹54,374 crore allocated as capital expenditure by Feb.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Acknowledging that elections and delay in approval of Budget has hindered the progress of capital expenditure, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who also holds Finance portfolio, on Monday directed the officials to spend ₹54,374 crore that has been allocated as capital expenditure for 2023-2024 by February.

"A sum of ₹46,955 crore allocated for capital expenditure during the previous year and this year it has been increased to ₹54,374 crore. Since this money will help in creation of public assets, it has to be ensure that it should be used judiciously," the Chief Minister told officials during a review of capital expenditure programmes of different departments here. He said that though the capital expenditure has been delayed, it has to be spent as per the fixed target.

Asking the officials to focus and ensure progress in the rural roads programmes, he said that the action plan for works in Kalyana Karnataka Region Development Board should be approved and implemented quickly. He pointed out that besides the ₹2,000 crore funds available from the last year, ₹3,000 crore has been allocated this year.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that of the ₹1 lakh crore approved expenditure in Water Resources Department, works related to about ₹12,000 crore has not commenced. "Review the projects and discuss with irrigation corporations officials as to which of the projects could be dropped," he said.

He also directed officials to take steps to construct primary health services on the model of Indian Public Health Standards.

Set your house in order to finish probe within a time frame, Lokayukta police told

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Lokayukta police is required to set its house in order by taking measures to complete investigation within a time frame, failing which the Damocles sword of prosecution will always be hanging on the head of the public servants and defeat several of their rights, if any, said the High Court of Karnataka.

Instances galore

"This court has come across several cases where investigation has gone on for ages and no final report was filed," observed Justice M. Nagaprasanna, adding that it speaks volumes about the lackadaisical attitude of the prosecution/Lokayukta police.

The court made these observations while rejecting petition filed by Kallappa, a retired professor of Karnatak University, Dharwad. The petitioner had sought a direction from the court to quash the disproportionate assets case being investigated against him from 2019 as the Lokayukta police are yet to complete the investigation and file a final report before the jurisdictional court.

> This court has come across several cases where investigation has gone on for ages and no final report was filed. It speaks volumes about the lackadaisical attitude of the prosecution/ Lokayukta police.
>
> **JUSTICE M. NAGAPRASANNA**
> High Court of Karnataka

Though one of the reasons for completion of investigation against the petitioner was non-disclosure of all his bank accounts, as he had disclosed only 20 accounts as against the total 58, unearthed during probe, the court hoped that this case would become an eye opener for speedy completion of investigation for which lack of will of the Lokayukta police has to be effaced.

For V-C post

The petitioner had complained to the court that he could not apply for the post of Vice-Chancellor due to the pendency of the investigation, as pendency of any investigation turns a person ineligible for applying for the post of Vice-Chancellor.

Armed gang attacks DMK functionary at a hotel in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An armed gang attacked a 53-year-old functionary of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and a rowdy-sheeter from Madurai at a hotel in Kammanahalli where he had come to have tea with a local real estate agent to discuss a house for rent.

Looking for a house

The victim identified as V.K. Gurusamy, who has multiple criminal cases pending against him, is associated with the DMK party. He had come to the city to look for a house on rent.

According to the police, the gang followed him in a car and attacked him before fleeing from the spot.

Multiple injuries

Panic gripped the other customers who ran helter-skelter. Gurusamy sustained multiple injuries and fell on the ground.

According to the Banaswadi police, the gang followed him in a car and attacked him before fleeing from the spot

A few people rushed to his help and called an ambulance before alerting the police.

The Banaswadi police have collected CCTV camera footage to identify the attackers. "We have some clues and are working on it," a senior police officer said.

Teams formed

Bheemashankar S. Guled, DCP, East division, said two special teams have been formed.

He said one team has been sent to Madurai to ascertain the motive behind the attack.

Akashvani to launch 'Story Akka' for children

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Starting this Teachers' Day, children across Karnataka will get to hear twice a week 'Story Akka', a radio programme series in Kannada that launches on Akashvani-Bengaluru.

The series is designed for children to gain empathy and understanding of people with disabilities and features stories as well as information on digital assistive technologies, according to a release.

'Story Akka' not only showcases the spirit of innovation but also incorporates educational elements in Maths and Science to enrich young minds.

The programmes can be heard live on the 'Newsonair' app of Prasar Bharati, available on App Store and Google Play. The 10-minute programme will be broadcast twice a week, on Tuesday and Saturday at 5.45 p.m. on Akashvani.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ZILLA PANCHAYAT, KALABURAGI-585103
Phone No's: 08472-278615 E-Mail ID:- pddrdaglb@gmail.com
No. ZPK/DRDA/NRLM/OHR/TENDER:09/2023-24/377 Date:02-09-2023

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM NOTIFICATION

E-TENDER FOR ENGAGING MANPOWER AGENCY UNDER NATIONAL RURAL LIVELIHOOD MISSION

1) TENDER REFERENCE NO & DATE : **RDPR/2023-24/SEO269,** 2) APPROXIMATE VALUE OF TENDER : **150.50 Lakh**, 3) EMD AMOUNT : 2.25 Lakh, 4) TENDER COMMENCEMENT DATE: **02-09-2023**, 5) LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS : **16-09-2023 5:30pm,** 6) TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS : **19-09-2023 11.30 am**, 7) TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF FINANCIAL BIDS : **25-09-2023 11.30 am**, 8) Letter of Intent : **28-09-2023**, 9) Contract Period : TWO years, 8) PLACE OF OPENING OF TENDERS: **DRDA ZILLA PANCHAYAT KALABURAGI**

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer
Zilla Panchayat, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/242/KSMC&A/2023-24

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, B.M.ROAD, SANTHEPETE CIRCLE, HASSAN
ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹಾಸನ.
Email:commn_hassan@yahoo.com Phone:08172-268276, 263033 **web: http://www.hassancity.gov.in** ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ: 233702 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 234792
o:CMC/HSN/HS/AEE(Env)/CR 30/2023-24 Date:02-09-2023

:Short Term Tender Notification: (Through E-Procurement Portal)

City Municipal Council, Hassan invites Tender as per the Approved DPR of Swachh Bharath Mission under the KTPP act 2000, for the Supply of Laboures and Tractor for Solid waste Management and ABC Program in Hassan CMC Limit. Name of Work: 1] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0722 2] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0741 3] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0745 4] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0743 5] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0742 6] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0749 7] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0744 8] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0747 9] Indent Number: DMA/2023-24/SE0289/CALL2 1] Last date and time for Queries /Clarification is 16-09-2023upto 5.30p.m 2] Last date and time for receipt of Tenders is 20-09-2023upto 5.30p.m 3] Date and time for Opening of Technical bid is 22-09-2023, 11.00 a.m 4] Date and time for Opening of Financial bid is 25-09-2023, 11.00 a.m Note: The tenderer should quote the Rate (Service charge) in Rupees per person per month

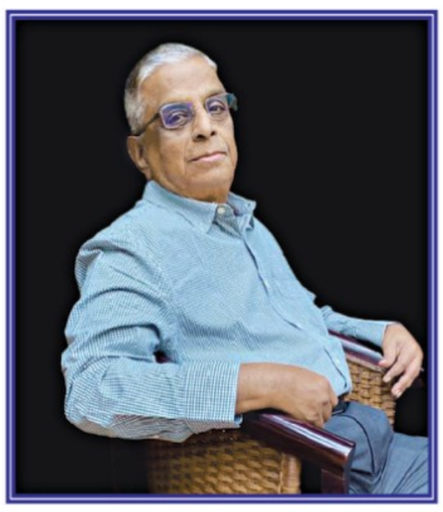
sd/- President CMC, Hassan. **sd/- Municipal Commissioner CMC, Hassan.**

ಪಾಸಾಸಂ/ಟೆಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/257/ಕೆಎಸ್ ಎಂಸಿಎ/267/2023–24

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

R.GOPALNATHAN
Departed on : Sept 3, 2023
Retd. Chairman - CBIC



Forever in our hearts
Anusuya
Lata, Priya, Madhu, Vasu,
Samyukta & Varun

Car scrap dealers worried about new Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility in Bengaluru

RVSFs of the big automobile companies are expected to change the profile of the vehicle scrapping business by bringing in a professional touch to the process

Dhiraj Shetty
BENGALURU

Car scrap dealers in Bengaluru are bracing for the impact of the Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF), which is expected to change the face of a business that is a huge part of the unorganised sector.

The RVSF coming up in Bengaluru is the project of CERO, a joint venture of Mahindra Accelo and government-owned MSTC Limited. Once it's operational, it is expected to attract vehicle owners who want to dispose of their end-of-life vehicle and an eco-friendly process to scrap it.

Now, end-of-life vehicles can be handed over to a scrap dealer in the unorganised sector. But it involves the risk of misuse of the vehicle. RVSFs are expected to eliminate this risk.

Scrapping vehicle

While the government has announced that its vehicles will be scrapped after 15 years, scrapping a personal vehicle is voluntary.

Personal vehicles can be used as long as they are fit to ply. But if, at any point, it fails a fitness test at a government-authorised Automated Testing Station, it'll have to be scrapped at an RVSF.

The same applies to commercial vehicles. The only significant difference is that commercial vehicles have to clear a fitness test every year to renew their registration. Being under such intense scrutiny, they have to be fit to ply at all times or risk being scrapped. All such vehicles will have to be scrapped at RVSFs.

C. Mallikarjuna, Additional Commissioner for Transport, Karnataka, says, "Individuals can hand over end-of-life vehicles to RVSFs, which will be authorised to apply to the RTO for de-registration. If the RTO does not respond within seven days, the application is deemed to be accepted. The RVSF can proceed with scrapping the vehicle."

The RVSF will hand over a Certificate of Deposit (CoD) to certify that you have handed over your end-of-life vehicle for scrapping, followed by a Certificate of Vehicle Scrapping (CVS) to certify that your vehicle has been scrapped as per government norms and in an eco-friendly process.

Plus, the government is offering incentives for each CoD. The incentives vary with each State government. Karnataka is offering a discount on the road tax for a new vehicle. The discount equals 25% of the road tax paid for the scrapped vehicle.

If you do not intend to purchase a new vehicle, you can trade your Certificate of Deposit (CoD) with someone who wants to.

As of now, vehicle owners can hand over end-of-life vehicles to a scrap dealer in the unorganised sector. But this process involves the risk of misuse of the vehicle. An RVSF will eliminate this risk.

Scrap dealer vs RVSF

As of now, your local scrap dealer has a cost advantage over an RVSF. Scrap dealers have been around ever since motor vehicles have been plying on roads. Hence, their overheads will be lower than RVSFs, which have to account for the recovery of capital invested and the cost of scrapping a vehicle in an eco-friendly process as per government norms.

Aniket Bag, the founder of vehicle scrap dealer aggregator Scrapoto, says, "The local scrap dealer is likely to offer around 20% more for your end-of-life vehicle as compared to an RVSF."

But, the 20% advantage comes with the risk of misuse of your vehicle and lack of clarity on how the vehicle is scrapped and how the oil, grease, glass and plastic are disposed of.

Besides, the 25% discount on road tax paid for the scrapped vehicle is expected to compensate for the 20% difference in price offered by the local scrap dealer and an RVSF in Karnataka.

RVSFs of the big automobile companies are expected to change the profile of the vehicle scrapping business by bringing in a professional touch to the process.

Sumit Issar, Managing Director, Mahindra Accelo, says, "Our team will guide you from the moment you decide to scrap your end-of-life vehicle. At the end of the process, you will have a CoD, your vehicle will be de-registered from the RTO, and you will have a CVS. Plus, complete peace of mind."

Karnataka is expected to get three RVSFs - one each in Bengaluru, Korategere near Tumakuru, and Koppal - in the near future.

As more RVSFs become operational across India, offering vehicle owners a government-authorised option to scrap their end-of-life vehicles, vehicle scrap dealers in the unorganised sector are expected to take a hit on their business.

Since there is no compulsion to scrap personal vehicles as long as they pass a fitness test at an Automated Testing Station, RVSFs are likely to depend on end-of-life vehicles of the government largely.

Size of business

Presenting the Union Budget of 2023-34, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman announced that the government would scrap vehicles over 15 years at RVSFs. Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari estimated that the number of government vehicles to be scrapped across India is approximately 9 lakh.

Hence, the new RVSFs are expected to get off to a good start. Building on this foundation, their business is expected to get better over time.

A car scrap dealer in Shivajinagar says, "These big RVSFs will hurt our business. As of now, we do not know the extent, but our livelihood will definitely be impacted. Why will vehicle owners come to us if they are being promised peace of mind elsewhere?"

Shoaib Ahmed, Secretary of Stephen Square Merchants' Association, which represents car scrap dealers in Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, says, "If the government had taken us into confidence while rolling out the vehicle scrapping policy and ensured our participation, we would have done so whole-heartedly. We have been in this business for over 100 years. In Bengaluru, around 7,000 persons are engaged in just the car scrapping eco-system. Then we have the scrapping of large vehicles, which is a separate eco-system. Thousands of families depend on this business. We started with scrap from horse-drawn carriages and are now dealing with electric vehicles. We know this business in and out. We maintain all relevant documents of the vehicles that we handle, which we share with the authorities concerned. We would have loved to set up RVSFs. Instead, the government seems to have gone with big companies."

Of the 64 approvals for RVSFs across India, 34 are operational. The large players are CERO of Mahindra Accelo-MSTC, Maruti-Toyota consortium, and Tata Motors.

Mahindra Group has the maximum units (nine), of which not all are operational. Maruti-Toyota and Tata Motors have one operational unit each. These three companies have plans to set up RVSFs across India but are yet to actually do so. Even if all their approved RVSFs are operational, the total does not exceed 11, which still leaves 23 RVSFs of smaller entrepreneurs.

Land and capital

Mr. Mallikarjuna says, "Since the new vehicle scrapping was introduced in 2021, the government has reduced the requirements to set up an RVSF. We want maximum participation. Anyone can check the requirements online and apply online. Each application will be addressed in 60 days."

Shoaib Ahmed says, "Many of our members are keen on transitioning to the organised sector. This is indeed a big opportunity for us. But, we are facing two hurdles - land and capital. An RVSF requires at least 2 acres. Where can we get so much land in Shivajinagar? Or, even in Bengaluru, for an RVSF to be financially viable?"

"Even if we get the land, the size of our operations is too small to raise the necessary capital simultaneously. Hence, we are hoping for assistance from the government of Karnataka. If the State government can give us land, we will try to raise the capital. If the government helps us become a part of the organised sector, our contribution to the State exchequer - in the form of GST and other taxes - will go up."

Busines know-how

The experience and business know-how of the unorganised car scrap dealership network sector are not without takers.

CERO is focused entirely on setting up their operations and getting it right. But, the team is aware of the potential of the unorganised sector that has

The RVSF will hand over a CoD to certify that you have handed over your end-of-life vehicle for scrapping

been operating in this business for decades and has a well-oiled network of people who handle a scrap of all kinds. Sumit Issar, Managing Director, Mahindra Accelo, says, "We plan to have several RVSFs across India in the coming years. Karnataka alone might have four. Collaborating with existing vehicle scrapping dealers is one way to execute our plan."

Another person who is trying to tap their network is Scrapoto founder Aniket Bag. "I started Scrapoto as a vehicle scrap dealer aggregator to address some of the pain points of people who wanted to scrap their vehicles. RVSF is a natural progression for Scrapoto. In terms of organic growth for Scrapoto, the existing scrap dealers are the most natural partners for an RVSF. I have approached them with a proposal for collaboration."

Shoaib Ahmed says, "Scrapoto founder Aniket Bag had approached us with a proposal to set up an RVSF jointly. Our members are debating this option. We have not accepted his proposal, but we have not rejected the possibility either."

But they may have to decide soon. It's a number game, and right now, the game is stacked against existing vehicle scrap dealers. Over time, with steady business from government vehicles, the RVSFs would have recovered their capital investment and would be incurring only operating expenses. By that time, existing scrap dealers would have lost their 20% advantage.

The future scenario

If existing vehicle scrap dealers want a glimpse of what the future will look like, they ought to look at what is happening in Delhi.

With the government unable to put curbs on either the number of vehicles or pollution levels, the National Green Tribunal has had to intervene. The government was ordered not to allow diesel vehicles older than 10 years old and petrol vehicles older than 15 years to ply on the roads of Delhi.

As a workaround, owners of such vehicles sell them to people in other parts of India. However, over time, it is possible that other States will stop registering such vehicles.

At that point, all end-of-life vehicles will have to be scrapped in RVSFs. The new RVSFs coming up in Karnataka could be the trigger for a transformation either in the existing vehicle scrapping business (if they opt to improve their processes) or in the profile of Shivajinagar (if they opt to exit the business).

How to dispose of your end-of-life car at a Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility

EXPLAINER

Dhiraj Shetty
BENGALURU

The government of India introduced the vehicle scrapping policy in 2021 to phase out old vehicles, as they cause pollution and are considered unfit to ply.

Fitness test

Commercial vehicles undergo a fitness test every year when their registration has to be renewed. If a vehicle fails the test, it will have to be scrapped. Private vehicles have to go for re-registration when they are 15 years old, for which they have to take a fitness test at an RTO.

If your personal vehicle clears the fitness test, you can use it for another five years after re-registering at the RTO by paying the relevant tax. Registration has to be renewed every five years.

Local scrap dealers

If your vehicle fails the fitness test, it will have to be scrapped. As of now, you would go to one of the vehicle scrap dealers in your city. The dealer would purchase the vehicle at a price that would be determined by two factors: one, the weight of the metal, and two, the quality of the parts.

The glass, plastic, tyres, oil, and grease must be disposed of in an eco-friendly manner.

For calculating the portion of price accounted by the metal, the scrap dealer would divide the weight of the vehicle by two (it would vary with each scrap dealer and city or State) to account for the non-ferrous material. So, if your car weighs 1,000 kg, the scrap dealer would pay the prevailing rate for 500 kg of iron scrap.

The price assigned to the quality of usable parts would be at the discretion of the scrap dealer.

What does scrap dealer do with your vehicle

Once you hand over your vehicle to your neighbourhood scrap dealer and take the money, you have no idea what the scrap dealer will do with the car. Ideally, the scrap dealer would sell the metal and try to get the best price for the usable parts. But, the dealer might even re-sell the car without your knowledge. You might come to know if and when the car comes to the attention of the police, say for ignoring a signal following an accident, or being used in a crime, or something like that.

How does vehicle scrappage policy make things better

The policy lays down the norms for setting up a Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility, or RVSF, where your vehicle will be scrapped as per government norms and in an eco-friendly process. An RVSF is coming up in Bengaluru. It's being set up by CERO, which is a joint venture of Mahindra Accelo and GoI-run MSTC. A separate RVSF is coming up at Koratagere in Tumakuru district and another in Koppal district of Karnataka.

Is authorised dealer costlier than neighbourhood scrap dealer?

Aniket Bag, founder of scrap dealer aggregator Scrapoto, estimates a difference in the range of 20%. "This is accounted for by the cost of capital invested and compliance with government-mandated eco-friendly methods of scrapping a vehicle."

What are government-mandated methods of scrapping vehicle

The glass, plastic, tyres, oil, and grease must be disposed of in an eco-friendly manner. Wherever possible, parts of the scrapped vehicle should be re-cycled.

Why you should go to an RVSF

An RVSF will hand over a Certificate of Deposit (CoD) and a Certificate of Vehicle Scrapping (CVS). These certificates prove that you have complied with the legal requirements for an end-of-life vehicle.

Is 20% less price a good reason to go to an RVSF?

If your neighbourhood scrap dealer misuses your vehicle, you might also have to bear the consequences. The CoD can save you from the possibility of resale of the vehicle that you gave for scrapping and the resultant consequences, if any.

Any other reason to go to an RVSF?

The government is trying to come up with incentives that will make you accept the 20% lower price, like a discount on the road tax for your next vehicle. You get a discount equivalent to 25% of the road tax paid for the scrapped vehicle. The incentives vary with each State.

What if I do not intend to buy another vehicle?

The CoD is a tradable document. You can trade it with someone who wants to buy a new vehicle.

How many RVSF does India have?

64 (as on August 2023) of which 34 are operational.

Where can I find an RVSF?

State-wise RVSF list is available on Vahan portal

What if my vehicle was registered in a different State?

You can scrap the vehicle at the nearest RVSF and collect the CoD, using which you can claim benefits offered by the State in which your (scrapped) vehicle had been registered.

Do I need to inform RTO about scrapping my vehicle?

C. Mallikarjuna, Additional Commissioner for Transport, Karnataka, says, "Individuals can hand over end-of-life vehicles to RVSFs who will be authorised to apply to the RTO for de-registration. If the RTO does not respond within seven days, the application is deemed to be accepted. RVSF can proceed with scrapping the vehicle, after which they must hand over a Certificate of Vehicle Scrapping (CVS) to the owner."

But, if you wish to, you can de-register your vehicle online on the Vahan portal.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 5, 1973

Mysore's Fifth Plan: Talks to-day in Delhi

Bangalore, Sept. 4: Talks between the Planning Commission and the Mysore Government begin in Delhi to-morrow, for giving shape to the State's Rs. 1,350 crore draft Fifth Plan, claimed to be need-based and taking into consideration a ten-year perspective.

The Chief Minister, Mr. D. Devaraj Urs, and the Finance Minister, Mr. M.Y. Ghorpade, have left for Delhi for discussions.

The Planning Commission, however, has tentatively indicated that the size of the State's Plan would be of the order of Rs. 830 crores and has also assumed Rs. 175 crores for additional resource mobilisation by the State for the Plan.

Govt. Plans to Take Over Contract Carriages

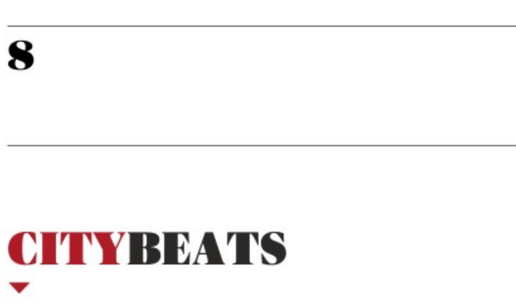
Bangalore, Sept. 4: The Labour Minister, Mr. Azeez Sait, reiterated in the Mysore Assembly to-day that the Government was exploring the possibilities of talking over contract carriages, their routes and crew.

Answering a question tabled by Mr. N. Basavaiah (Cong-O) the Minister said no permits were given to any private bus-owner to run contract carriages exclusively between Bangalore and Shimoga during the past one year but he admitted that a number of "on contract" buses were plying on this road without permit. The Goverment wanted the operators to submit a list of passengers, but the operators had obtained a stay of this condition from the High Court. The Government was trying to vacate this stay.

CITYBEATS

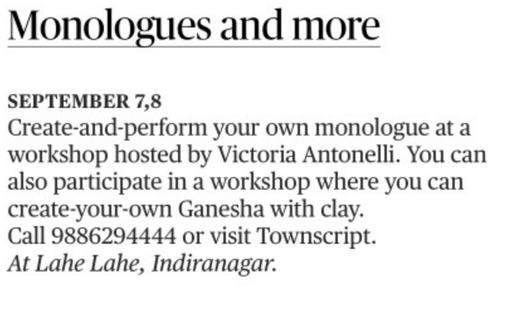
Monologues and more

SEPTEMBER 7,8
Create-and-perform your own monologue at a workshop hosted by Victoria Antonelli. You can also participate in a workshop where you can create-your-own Ganesha with clay.
Call 9886294444 or visit Townscript.
At Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar.



A wider spectrum

SEPTEMBER 9, 10 TO 6PM
Attend Mitra Habba, a celebration of inclusion of neurodiversity, which aims to promote awareness as well as an understanding and acceptance of neurodiversity. It will feature flea markets, panel discussions, interactive music, dance, art, food and more. Open to all.
At Bangalore International Centre (BIC).



Festivities galore

SEPTEMBER 6 TO 10
The 61st Bangalore Ganesha Utsav will include a five-day concert, featuring performances by Ricky Kej, AGAM Band, Nakul Abhayankar, Varijashree Venugopal and troupe and DJ Jasmeet and Beat Gurus. Open to all.
At Lakeside Orion Mall @ Brigade Gateway, 6.30pm

"My songs come from a place of both darkness and hope"

Vocalist Shilpa Ananth, who is releasing her next album later this month, talks about her musical journey

Preeti Zachariah

Shilpa says that music doesn't let go of her

Shilpa Ananth's 2022 music video, *The Search*, starts dramatically. The singer, swathed in an impossibly long red robe stands in the middle of a bleak, arid landscape, gazing into the distance, the folds of her mantle undulating across tawny sand. Then she begins to sing, the lyrics of her song as raw as the landscape in which it unfurls, infused with the existential angst and identity crisis that Shilpa was herself going through when she wrote the song. "It was such a weird turn of events that became my life," recalls the UAE-based vocalist, songwriter and performing artist, who was recently performed in Bengaluru.

Currently working on her next album, *Reproduction*, slotted to release later this month, Shilpa talks about the events that led to the creation of the song. In January 2020, she had just released her song *Align*, a ruminative, introspective number that ponders on the dissonance between an artist's performative and authentic self. She was also touring India, around then, and was on an artist's high, recalls the 33-year-old. "I thought 2020 was going to be my year, that it was all coming together," she recalls, with a laugh.

On her way back from her Indian tour, she visited her parents, who live in Dubai. Then COVID-19 happened, and it all changed. "I had booked a flight out to Brooklyn, but I never got on that flight," says Shilpa. "My friends went to my place in New York and emptied my apartment. I had to say goodbye to my home of five years from the other side of the world."

It was a difficult transition, but it helped her create more music. "I was questioning my self-worth, my life's purpose," she says, recalling that she often felt suffocated and alone during that time. But it also gave her the time to introspect and she started writing more songs, many of which will be part of her new album.

"Music was the only way I could stay sane," says Shilpa, who initially recorded using *The Search* on iPhone voice memos. "I had no access to recording studios, and all my professional mics and home studio setup were back in the US, so I decided to risk it and experiment," she says of the song that captures her battle with grief triggered by isolation, loss and unprecedented changes during this period. "There's no question that creating *The Search* literally saved my life."

Always a singer

Music has always been a part of Shilpa's daily fabric who started formally studying it at the tender age of three. "My parents heard me standing in the corner and singing this very complicated Tamil song," she remembers. So, they decided to send her for Carnatic music lessons immediately. "That was my first introduction to music," says the vocalist, who grew up in Dubai.

By her teens, she started getting into more western music "rock, pop, R&B and jazz," says Shilpa, who was influenced by Ella Fitzgerald, Nina Simone and Norah Jones, women who made her feel that "there may be a space for me with *my* voice." Indian music, she adds, was starting to make her feel a little alienated as female vocalists with a high register voice were seen as more talented. "Listening to those voices helped me understand that there is a place for an alto voice as well and that talent doesn't mean one thing," says Shilpa, whose multilingual songs are a melange of Carnatic, soul, jazz, pop and electronic.

In 2007, she moved to Bengaluru to study media and psychology at Mount Carmel College (MCC) and she soon became an active part of the college's music scene. "I could see music had a space for me," she says. "It wasn't much of a leap to decide that this was what I was going to do," says Shilpa, who auditioned and got into the Berklee College of Music in Boston, after graduating from MCC.

The decision to study music formally in America changed everything for her, she says, offering her a depth of understanding of music that she had not had before. "It also introduced me to an incredible community and wonderful opportunities," she says, adding that formally studying music helped her find her authentic voice and discover what she wanted to say through it.

By 2013, around the time she was graduating, she started writing her own songs, creating something that "is a mix of all these cultures that I am part of," says Shilpa.

Making her mark

"Music hasn't let me go, so I haven't let it go either," says Shilpa, pointing out that being an indie artist continues to come with its fair share of setbacks, disappointments and challenges.

Her five-year-old-long stint in New York, where she moved after graduation, for instance, saw her holding down multiple jobs – nine at one point – just to make ends meet. "New York was the hardest teacher," she says, admitting that her time there made her doubt herself many times. "No matter what I did, it was never enough."

It also pushed her work ethic, and her level of professionalism, helping her find her voice as an artist, believes Shilpa, who went on to release her first album *Indian Soul* in 2016.

As always, everything that transpires in Shilpa's life, as in the case of *The Search*, finds its way into her art. "Every song I write comes from something that has happened," she says, admitting that she considers the process of creating music therapeutic. "My songs often come from a place of darkness, but they also come from a place of hope," she says.

Handle with care Representational image of a teacher. GN RAO

Helping teachers broach sexual health lessons

Praveen S

When Tejinder Anand was in high school in the mid-'90s, his teachers glossed over the topic of human reproduction. For the school, it was an embarrassing topic, which they could avoid because it did not carry a lot of marks. So, Tejinder did not have a clear picture of the subject. Whatever knowledge he acquired, he did outside school.

Three decades later, the subject of sex remains taboo for many teachers in the country. Adolescents still have many questions unanswered – for instance, the changes they undergo during puberty. Unlike 30 years ago, the digital age has made many options available to quench their curiosity. But there is a lot of misinformation, too and they do not know what or who to trust.

"There is a need for authentic, trusted sources of information. We need to train teachers to guide the students concerning topics like sexual and reproductive health," says Tejinder, who is the lead for Technology and Communications at the Population Foundation of India (an NGO), whose online platform Educately offers teacher-training courses in adolescent health and well-being.

Educately, launched in 2020, aims to connect with adolescents and their support network, including parents, educators, community members, and policymakers. They offer free resources covering various aspects of adolescent well-being, including reproductive and sexual health, mental wellness, and building healthy relationships.

Their primary offering is the ARSH (Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health) For You teacher training course, which introduces teachers to the basic principles that impact adolescent health and well-being. These comprise discussions on growth and changes in the human body, factors that impact identity, such as sex, gender and sexuality, relationships, and contraception.

"It's a small module and it is free. Teachers can do it at their own pace," says Tejinder. The other courses on the platform are Adolescent Problem-Solving Counselling Training (APT) and Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health (ISRH).

So far, over 13,000 teachers have signed up for the courses available in English and Hindi. "So far, most of the teachers signed up on the platform are from Bihar, Jharkhand, and Manipur. We plan to add more regional languages to invite teachers from other parts of the country as well," adds Tejinder.

The courses, he says, are not just for Biology teachers. "When we went through the educational curricula, we found that adolescent health and well-being is scattered across subjects like social studies, and general science."

Sathish Kumar, who works at a private school in Erode, says the course has been beneficial to him in talking to his adolescent students. "Recently, there was a news report about contraceptives and condoms found in a schoolkid's bag in Karnataka. Kids are exposed to a lot of things these days. And a teacher needs to understand them and talk to guide them properly. The ARSH course helps in this regard," he says.

Educately has also piloted an offline program to train educators at school.

The courses are available for free at educately.org/courses

> So far, over 13,000 teachers have signed up for the courses available in English and Hindi

The importance of being well read

Ranjani Govind

While listening to a lecture by Gururaj Karajagi on YouTube, it was a delight to discover that the Kannada columnist completes 60 years of writing in 2023.

This motivational speaker with nearly 3,000 published articles and a host of research papers in international journals to his credit, is also the founder of the Academy for Creative Teaching (ACT) which had crafted a syllabus for teachers who looked beyond the conventional courses offered.

Beacon of light Gururaj Karajagi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Born in 1952 into a middle class family at Bilagi, North Karnataka, Gururaj pursued a Doctorate in Chemistry from Karnataka University in Dharwad. Inspired by his teacher-grandfather Gopalacharya's knowledge and secular outlook and his elder sister whom he calls a 'pragmatic philosopher,' the young boy's hunger for literature, philosophy, stories and liberal arts grew.

"My grandfather had a cosmopolitan outlook," Gururaj says over the phone from his office in RT Nagar, Bengaluru.

"He enrolled me in gurukula classes, and in the evening he loved describing lines from Basavanna, Akkamahadevi Allamaprabhu. He wanted me to learn beyond the confines of caste and religion. He did not know English but said, 'I am told *The Bible* is so good, you should read it.' When I came to Bangalore he sent me to a *moulvi* in Gandhinagar for six months to learn the *Quran*."

Regarded as an outstanding motivational speaker, Gururaj covers a spectrum of topics in his talks that range from religious scriptures to the frontiers of quantum mechanics.

He will be addressing the Kannada Koota in the United Kingdom this month, after visiting the University of California in Berkeley and various Kannada Sanghas in the US.

Gururaj, recipient of Karnataka Rajyothsava Prashasti became a household name after his All India Radio broadcasts and his inspirational book *Karunaalu Baa Belake* went for several reprints.

The voracious reader who has edited 42 books on *Vachana Sahitya* and *Daasa Sahitya*, has also translated O Henry's short stories into Kannada. His other major work, *Shikshana Shilpa*, is a collection of essays on education.

Wondering why teachers used stories for their lessons, Gururaj gradually understood that a story could convey a concept much better than a long lecture.

"You can also change the story according to the situation and it becomes your story. Ramakrishna Paramahamsa's parables are world famous – he was a master at adapting stories."

Gururaj focuses on students as he feels they require direction. "The best way to fill the learning gap would be through stories. It is gratifying to see the unprecedented responses from young people."

Young people should make a habit of reading and visiting libraries, he says.

"It provides them with a well-rounded education. In classrooms, one requires creative teaching and values should be intertwined with every lesson."

INBRIEF

Elusive tigress captured from human settlement in Kerala

An elusive tigress that triggered panic near Moolamkavu, under the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS) in Kerala, was captured from a human settlement on Monday. The tigress, aged about 12, had killed two domestic animals and 50-odd fowls in a poultry farm in the past few days. The predator was shifted to the forest veterinary laboratory at Sulthan Bathery. The animal was not fit to be released in the wild as it was weak, Forest Department sources said.

Notify election of D. K. Aruna as Gadwal MLA, says EC order

The Election Commission (EC) has ordered the publication of a gazette notification on the election of D.K. Aruna from Gadwal in the 2018 Telangana Assembly election. The High Court had recently declared as invalid the election of Bandla Krishna Mohan (BRS) from the seat. In her petition, she had accused Mr. Mohan of not disclosing his assets in the affidavit. The HC then declared Ms. Aruna elected from the seat. The EC directive comes in the wake of the HC verdict.

All eyes on Puthuppally as its voters take their pick today

The voters of Puthuppally in Kerala will be heading to the polling booth on Tuesday to cast their votes in an Assembly byelection that has assumed Statewide significance. The bypoll was necessitated by the death of Congress leader Oommen Chandy. The voting will commence at 7 a.m. and conclude at 6 p.m. The constituency is now witnessing a race primarily between two youngsters – UDF candidate Chandy Oommen, 37 and LDF candidate Jaick C. Thomas, 33.

Won't be intimidated by 'evil forces': Udhayanidhi Stalin

Speaking at Thoothukudi, DMK leader insists he had not spoken against Hinduism or Hindus; says he condemns the evil practices and inequality encouraged by *Sanatana Dharma*

The Hindu Bureau
THOOTHUKUDI

Asserting that there was nothing wrong in his remarks against *Sanatana Dharma*, Tamil Nadu Minister for Sports and Youth Welfare Udhayanidhi Stalin on Monday said he would speak against it again and again, if he was intimidated to not speak about it. The DMK youth wing leader insisted he had not said "anything against Hinduism and Hindus".

Mr. Udhayanidhi, who was in Thoothukudi to chair a review meeting at the Collectorate, told journalists there was no need for him to resign from his post as there was nothing wrong in what he had said about *Sanatana Dharma*. "Since *Sanatana Dharma* promoted the evil practice of *sati* and treated women like slaves, the Dravidian movement opposed it and liberated women from these nauseating practices and superstitious beliefs," he contended.

Udhayanidhi Stalin

"I want to make it clear that I did not speak anything against Hinduism and the Hindus. I condemn the evil practices and inequality encouraged by *Sanatana Dharma*. If these evil forces threaten me that I should not speak against it, I will speak against *Sanatana Dharma* again and again," he said. The Dravidian Model of governance in Tamil Nadu has taken women to the next level through a range of schemes including *Puthumai Penn* scheme that ensures disbursal of ₹1,000 as monthly assistance while the beneficiaries do their graduation, he said. He distributed welfare assistance to the tune of ₹6.37 crore to 115 beneficiaries.

Ministers Anita R. Radhakrishnan and P. Geetha Jeevan, Collector K. Senthil Raj, Superintendent of Police L. Balaji Saravanan, Corporation Commissioner C. Dinesh Kumar, Mayor Jegan Periyasami and MLAs G.V. Markandeyan and M. C. Shanmugaiah were present.

RELATED REPORTS
» PAGE 11

VSSC exam fraud: police gather evidence against 'established racket'

Sarath Babu George
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The investigation into the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) examination fraud has blown the lid off a "well-entrenched racket" involving Indian Army and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) staffers which is suspected to have orchestrated similar malpractices with hired test takers in other public examinations.

The Kerala Police have apprehended 10 Haryana natives, including four fake candidates, in the case thus far. Another 15 impersonators are suspected to have appeared for the examination held to various posts on August 20 at various centres in Thiruvananthapuram.

Swiftly apprehended

While the Thiruvananthapuram police moved swiftly to apprehend six persons within two days of the examination, a special investigation team managed to nab four more people from Haryana. While seven of them are currently in police custody, steps have been initiated to obtain custody of the others.

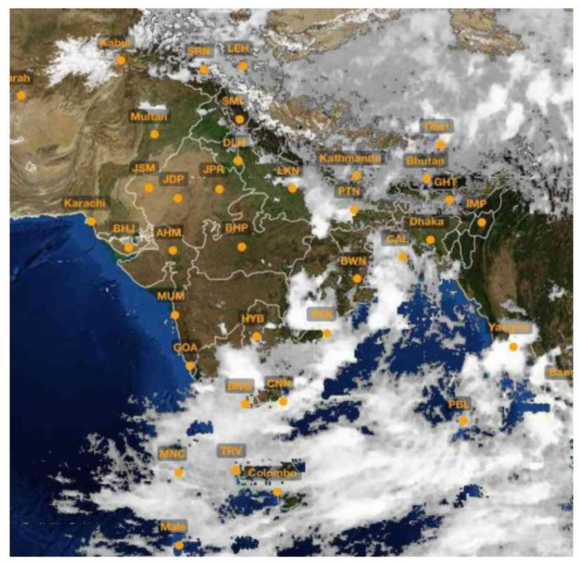
The sleuths have gathered evidence that indicated that all the accused are known to each other. Bolstering such findings is the seizure of original certificates of candidates from the impersonators, screenshots of question papers and payment details that could prove key in establishing the conspiracy.

Amit, one of the accused who is currently in custody, is an Army clerk stationed at Mohali in Punjab. He had allegedly impersonated one Rishipal, who had registered for the written test.

"There are reasons to believe that the motley gang had established itself as an efficient network that could be hired by economically backward candidates to appear for examinations on their behalf," said District Police Chief (Thiruvananthapuram City) C.H. Nagaraju.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Rayalaseema, east Madhya Pradesh, Marathwada, Vidarbha, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.2	26.3	Kozhikode	5	33.6	24.8
Ahmedabad	—	35.9	25.8	Kurnool	33	26.0	23.6
Aizawl	26	33.7	21.5	Lucknow	—	36.2	26.8
Allahabad	—	36.2	28.0	Madurai	0.5	33.8	25.6
Bengaluru	0.2	25.6	21.0	Mangaluru	4.9	30.6	24.0
Bhopal	—	34.6	23.5	Mumbai	0.2	32.2	25.0
Bhubaneswar	1.6	31.6	24.5	Mysuru	—	32.9	23.4
Chandigarh	—	36.0	26.9	New Delhi	—	40.1	26.3
Chennai	11	30.8	25.2	Patna	33	31.2	24.8
Coimbatore	0.6	32.3	23.4	Port Blair	39	30.8	24.1
Dehradun	0.1	35.4	24.4	Puducherry	0.2	33.7	25.8
Gangtok	7.5	24.4	18.1	Pune	—	29.6	23.0
Goa	0.5	30.1	24.8	Raipur	75	29.0	23.0
Guwahati	—	38.2	27.5	Ranchi	11	26.2	23.0
Hubballi	—	26.0	22.0	Shillong	—	28.2	17.5
Hyderabad	0.5	25.2	23.5	Shimla	—	26.2	16.6
Imphal	—	33.4	21.1	Srinagar	—	32.0	16.2
Jaipur	—	37.0	26.8	Thiruvananthapuram	8	31.7	23.8
Kochi	14	28.4	24.6	Tiruchi	26	34.5	24.6
Kohima	—	31.6	17.2	Vijayawada	—	32.6	25.8
Kolkata	38	32.6	24.4	Visakhapatnam	0.5	32.0	27.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.30	..—	143	25	77	
Bengaluru	...6	..29	.71	...111	...133	
Chennai	...6	111	.25	.....—	44	
Delhi	.14	..34	.46	...202	...125	
Hyderabad	.11	9	.30	74	91	
Kolkata	.15	.19	.28	37	41	
Lucknow	...8	..41	.37	...134	...124	
Mumbai	.37	..51	.51	...239	...168	
Pune	..—	..30	.52	...152	...115	
Visakhapatnam	..—	..—	..—	.....—	.....—	.....—

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Nagaon, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 312 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 20

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

For the first time after pandemic-triggered slump, Kerala movie halls have a cheerful Onam

S.R. Praveen
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Cinema theatre owners have many reasons for cheer as they had the best Onam season this year after the outbreak of COVID-19 with Tamil film *Jailer*, starring Rajinikanth, and Malayalam film *RDX* bringing in the crowds to the theatres.

The revival in the fortunes of theatre owners comes after four bleak Onam seasons, with theatres in the State remaining closed for two of those due to the pandemic.

According to figures from the Film Exhibitors' United Organisation of Kerala (FEUOK), *Jailer*, which released on August 10, continued to do steady business through Onam with a number of houseful shows. The gross collection for the film has crossed ₹50 crore, the highest collection for any non-Malayalam release in Kerala. Kamal Haasan's *Vikram* and Kannada film *KGF:Chapter 2*, both of which released last year, collected above ₹40 crore from the State. Malayalam movie *RDX*, which had a rather slow opening on August 25, picked up fast and has earned more than ₹20 crore from the State till now. But Dulquer Salman's *King of Kotha*, which came with much fanfare, had less than expected collections, although it has managed average business thanks to the festival crowd.

The revival in the fortunes of theatre owners comes after four bleak Onam seasons, with theatres in Kerala remaining closed for two of those due to the pandemic

"After the COVID-19 outbreak, this was the first Onam season in which theatre owners in the State had something to cheer for. Before *Jailer* released, many theatres in Kerala were facing a real crisis situation, with some of them even under the threat of imminent closure. But, the situation has completely changed now thanks to two hits," says K. Vijayakumar, president of FEUOK.

Last year, a total of 177 films released, out of which only a handful raked in profits. This year witnessed an even bigger glut of releases, many of which were forced to go for theatrical release after OTT platforms began insisting on the same before a decision on a streaming deal was taken. Till August end, a total of 150 Malayalam films released this year. But, except for *Romancham*, which released in February, and *2018*, released in May, and *RDX* now, no film has managed to have significant collections at the box office. It is in this scenario that a non-Malayalam movie has emerged as a winner at the box office and providing at least temporary relief to theatre owners.

Obstacle course

Mom's the word: A mother helping her daughter cross a puddle formed on the Kothapatnam road as a result of rain in Ongole in Andhra Pradesh on Monday. KOMMURI SRINIVAS

RMP leader's murder: HC starts hearing appeal of 12 convicts

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Monday began the final hearing on the appeal filed by 12 convicts in the case pertaining to the murder of Revolutionary Marxist Party leader T.P. Chandrasekharan at Onchiyam, near Kozhikode, in 2012.

Chandrasekharan, founder of the RMP, was hacked to death by a gang of persons on May 4, 2012 while he was returning home on his motorbike. The Kozhikode Additional Sessions Court sentenced 11 accused to life imprisonment and awarded three years' jail to one accused.

The appeals filed by the State and K.K. Rema, wife of the slain leader, seeking maximum punishment for the convicts and against the acquittal of other accused are also being heard by the court.

According to the appeal of the convicted persons, a case had been falsely foisted on them and they were convicted on the basis of false evidence and witness statements. The investigation, was done in a premeditated manner and false evidence was created, as per the appeal.

Ms. Rema also challenged the acquittal of CPI (M) leaders P. Mohanan, K.K. Krishnan, and 22 other accused in the case.

Only 12% of Bengaluru's population above 50 years have received any adult vaccines, finds survey

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A recent survey conducted by The Association of Physicians of India (API) and Ipsos (a market research company), in 16 cities among 2,359 adults aged above 50, their caregivers, and doctors, has shown that only 12% of adults in Bengaluru have taken any adult vaccines.

Although 84% of 150 adults surveyed in Bengaluru are aware of adult vaccination, a significant number of adults (89%) and their caregivers (93%) said they would trust their doctor's word if advised to get vaccinated.

Doctors in Bengaluru have recommended adult vaccines to only 12% of aging adults and only to those who ask for them, the survey found.

Overall, in the South zone (Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, and Thiruvananthapuram), doctors have recommended adult vaccination to lesser adults (10%) compared to the national average (16%). The survey revealed that although 71% of adults in the 16 cities are aware of adult vaccination, only 16% have taken any adult vaccines. According to experts, vaccination can prevent over 95% of deaths caused by vaccine-preventable diseases in India. The survey was conducted from February to March 2023. A majority of doctors surveyed (90%) said that a lack of formal guidelines results in a lack of interest and adoption of vaccination by patients. Doctors also hesitate to discuss adult vaccination with their patients because they have limitation of time, and they also feel patients are less receptive to vaccination recommendations due to cost as well as prioritisation of treatment over prevention.

A significant number of adults (89%) and their caregivers (93%) said they would trust their doctor's word if advised to get vaccinated. FILE PHOTO

Patients said that since they do not receive a firm recommendation from their doctors, they have not proactively taken adult vaccination. Many adults (69%) and their caregivers (76%) do not ask doctors about adult vaccination because they believe that if they needed it, their doctors would recommend it.

When asked about how to improve adult vaccination uptake, adult respondents (55%) and their caregivers (48%) said that measures such as those implemented for COVID-19 vaccination awareness can increase the adoption of adult vaccination.

Certain misconceptions about adult vaccination also hold back adults from getting vaccinated. More than half of adults (58%) and their caregivers (62%) feel that there are better ways than vaccination to protect themselves or their parents/in-laws from diseases. Many (50%) believe that multiple doses of vaccines can make them dependent on vaccines. In Bengaluru, 61% of adults believe that diseases other than COVID-19 are not severe enough to require vaccination. API secretary Agam Vora said measures need to be taken to increase the confidence of doctors in recommending vaccination for adults.

"This is possible if there are formal guidelines on adult immunisation. Programmes that address concerns, debunk myths, and remind patients and their caregivers frequently to ask doctors about adult vaccines can also drive adoption," Dr. Vora said.

Vaccines for adults

COVID, HPV, Influenza, Pneumococcal, Hepatitis A/B , Herpes Zoster (Shingles) and Tdap/Td (for protection against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, and acellular pertussis)

Tiers apart

'One nation, one election' militates against federalism, tiered governance

In a multi-tiered governance system such as the one in India, a Union of States, electoral democracy works by allowing people to choose their representatives for each tier based on their perception of who is best suited to represent them for each specific tier. There is a reason why there is a demarcation of power between the Union, States and local body institutions and why there is a voter mandate every five years to elect representatives for Parliament, Assemblies and local bodies. The demarcation allows for specific roles for each representative across these tiers and suggests varied voter choices that could be based on party affiliation, candidate strength, ideological positions or simple socio-economic reasons specific to each constituency. That some States such as Andhra Pradesh and Sikkim hold simultaneous Assembly and parliamentary polls is a coincidence as their electoral cycle has coalesced with that of parliamentary polls. The BJP-led Union government's trial balloon, exploring the feasibility of simultaneous elections for all levels through a committee led by former President Ramnath Kovind, militates against the foundational idea of multi-tiered governance and is anti-federalist. Dangerously, one of the committee's terms of reference – to "examine and recommend, if the amendments to the Constitution [for the purpose of holding simultaneous elections] would require ratification by the States" – is a proposition that is anti-constitutional and will not stand legal scrutiny. It also advances a motive that would curtail many Assemblies much before their scheduled tenures – an untenable prospect.

Ostensibly, the proposal speaks of the need for simultaneous elections as a cost-cutting exercise allowing voting in parliamentary, Assembly, municipal and panchayat elections in one go. It also stems from the flawed notion that governments are forever in campaign mode because of frequent Assembly elections. First, there is no study to prove that there will be significant cost-saving with simultaneous elections and in any case, the costs incurred in the conduct of elections are not essentially wasteful as there is a multiplier effect to campaign spending and economic activity around polls. Elections for different levels also allow voters to hold their representatives to account and for their specific grievances to be noted. Second, the conduct of various elections at different points of time is to only elect representatives for these tiers and is not a referendum on just one tier or even an individual leader at every point of time, as the BJP has sought to make it. Those in civil and political society who are committed to India's federal structure should argue for separation of the Lok Sabha election from polls to Assemblies as the campaign issues and democratic choices vary. In any case, unless the term of each Lok Sabha and Assembly is fixed, and premature dissolution for whatever reason is barred, the idea is unworkable.

Opportune moment

Despite minor deceleration, GST inflows create room to expedite tax rates' rejig

GST revenues have clocked an 11.3% growth in the first five months of 2023-24, with an average monthly kitty of ₹1.66 lakh crore, up from about ₹1.5 lakh crore last year. This uptick, bolstered by the record ₹1.87 lakh crore collected in April, was slightly higher at 11.5% in the first quarter. Over July-August, that growth has slowed to 10.8% and 10.76%, respectively, marking the slowest rise since July 2021. In absolute terms, revenues in August, pertaining to transactions done in July, were at a three-month low of ₹1.59 lakh crore, from a three-month high of ₹1.65 lakh crore in July. On a disaggregated basis, revenues from goods imports rose about 3% in August after two months of contraction, indicating some recovery in discretionary demand. However, revenues from domestic transactions and services imports rose 13.8%, slower than July's 15.1% growth. The festive season could fuel some growth from both revenue sources. But the resurgence of high inflation may skew the momentum towards items preferred by high-income households as those with weaker incomes grapple with the pronounced price rise across food items by cutting back other spends.

The salutary effect of mandatory e-invoicing for firms with an annual turnover over ₹5 crore, excising loose ends in the tax trail, will be visible in this month's revenues. But the festive effect would only be discernible two months from now. Yet, the overall trajectory of GST revenues, boosted by a crackdown on evasion and fake registrations, is buoyant and should dilute concerns about underwhelming collections in initial years of the tax. Moreover, it offers a window to simplify and rationalise the complex multiple rate GST structure as mooted by the GST Council in 2021. Last year, the Finance Ministry indicated the rate rejig will have to wait till inflation subsides. This year, it signalled the rationalisation plan will stay in deep freeze, even before the recent price spike. A ministerial group (GoM), tasked with recommending a new rate structure, is yet to be reconstituted. Even if political bandwidth for the big GST reset is limited and the Centre may want to pitch it as a promise to voters for the next Lok Sabha, waiting that long will hurt growth potential. If done deftly, tax rate changes could also aid the battle against inflation in items of interest for the common man. In any case, this will be a complicated exercise so the dialogue with States must be continued by reviving the GoM, rather than starting afresh a year later.

A 'distraction' balloon in the winds of federalism

Praveen Chakravarty

is a political economist and Chairman of the Congress party's Data Analytics

Shashi Tharoor

is a three-term Member of Parliament (Congress) and Chairman of Professionals Congress

The 'one nation one election' proposal, premised on flimsy grounds, is politically unfeasible, administratively unworkable and constitutionally unviable

The 'one nation one election' proposal mooted yet again by the Narendra Modi government is deeply flawed. The reasons for the proposal are fallacious. The idea is unimplementable. It is nothing but a 'distraction' balloon floated to tide over the negative headlines about the Prime Minister's cronyism and the Chinese President Xi Jinping's snub to the G-20 summit.

The government argues that India is in a 'permanent campaign', to borrow the words of the American political commentator Sidney Blumenthal. India has had either a State or a national election every year for the last 36 years. This devours enormous financial resources and efforts, and the time of the government and political parties is the seeming concern. An election held constantly in some part of the country with a 'model code of conduct' distracts from governance and leads to policy paralysis. This is the essence of the opening argument in the notification issued a few days ago to constitute a panel to study a 'one nation one election'.

Do not conflate these two

Except 'India' does not have an election every year, one of India's States does. There is a fundamental difference between the two. When there is an election in say Bengal, with the Trinamool Congress, the Congress, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Left contesting, a Tamil Nadu governed by the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam or the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is not impacted. An election in Assam with a model code of conduct does not stop road projects or 'development' in Gujarat. So, when there are elections in a few States, 'India' is not in an election mode; some of India's States are. All of India's major political parties are not in an election mode, only some are. It is important to not conflate the two, since this notion is the basis for all arguments used to propagate the 'one election' idea.

The national parties with a Delhi-based high command culture such as the Congress and the BJP are the ones that may feel the pressure of constant elections because municipal or State elections held in any part of the country involve their national leadership – especially, when the campaigners-in-chief of the BJP, for a local body to a State election held anywhere in the country, also happen to have the important jobs of Prime Minister and Home Minister, it can feel like they are being stretched in a 'permanent campaign' and sidetracked from governance. But if the BJP chooses or wants to fight all elections in the country with the Prime Minister as their campaigner-in-chief and the Home Minister as their sole election in-charge, it is their flaw and not the nation's problem. It is certainly not a virtue for a Prime Minister to be so frequently relegating the duties of his office, meant to serve all citizens, to a lower priority such as the electoral interests of his party.

Each of India's States has different political cultures and parties. Why should the basic constitutional structure of the country be changed for two national leaders to help balance their campaign and governance schedules, under the alibi of perennial elections? The one election idea is only for the convenience of the BJP's campaign and smacks of arrogance and ignorance of India's political diversity. Furthermore, this is an attack on and an affront to India's federalism. Today, an elected Chief Minister of a State has the powers to recommend dissolution of their State legislatures and call for early elections, as Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) did in 2018, breaking the cycle of simultaneous State and Parliament elections in the State. Under a 'one election' framework, KCR will not have the right to do this. Why should these powers be taken away from the States and only the Union government have the powers to dictate the election schedule for every State? This is yet another blow to India's federalism.

Misleading arguments

Yet another misleading argument put forth in support of the idea is that between 1951-52 and 1967, India had simultaneous elections, and hence it is appropriate to revert to that system. That was not by design but by happenstance, since all States started off the block at the same time and had stable tenures in the first two decades after Independence. It is a testament to India's plurality and the need for diverse political representation that a plethora of regional parties mushroomed over the last six decades to govern various States as per their own election schedules as the State's politics warranted. It is foolhardy and regressive to forcibly re-synchronise the election schedules of various States by design.

Cost savings is the other reason cited for a concurrent elections proposal, something that even knowledgeable political commentators fall for but one that is deceptive.

Various estimates by the Election Commission, NITI Aayog and the government show that the costs of conducting all State and parliamentary elections in a five-year cycle work out to the equivalent of ₹10 per voter per year. The NITI Aayog report has also said that when elections are synchronised, it will cost the equivalent of ₹5 per voter per year. If any, in the short term, simultaneous elections will increase the costs for deploying far larger numbers of electronic voting machines and control units. So, it is laughable to imply that India's federalism needs to be subverted, political diversity thwarted, and the constitutional structure amended to save ₹5 for every voter in a year. The government could have saved that amount just by not building the grand 'Central Vista' in Delhi. Political parties and candidates may spend a lot more money on elections than the government but that is not the tax-payers' money. On the contrary, there is economic research to suggest that such election spending by parties and candidates actually benefits the economy and the government's tax revenues by boosting private consumption and serving as a stimulus.

The government's logic is incompatible with the vagaries of a parliamentary system in a large and diverse democracy. A single election calendar may work in a presidential system where the survival of the executive is not dependent upon a legislative majority. In India's parliamentary democracy, this is *ipso facto* a non-starter and one should not be wasting the nation's time deliberating on this.

Unitarism in the form of efficiency

'One nation one election' is a politically unfeasible, administratively unworkable and constitutionally unviable proposition. The idea is premised on flimsy and shallow grounds of cost savings, policy paralysis and governance interference. It is nothing but a deliberate ploy of the Narendra Modi government to move the headlines away from cronyism and China. That it chose to use 'one nation one election' to deflect attention is a reflection of its dismal lack of belief in India's federal democratic parliamentary structure. The real implicit message underlying the Modi government's 'one election' distraction is the clear ideological divide in Indian politics today – the BJP's "India is a uniform nation and polity" versus the INDIA alliance's "India is a union of diverse states and polities". Those of us who believe in the real India will never seek to shoehorn it into a deranged fantasy of unitarism dressed up as efficiency.

Emerging countries need women-led climate action

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Women in these parts of the world are more vulnerable to climate change because of their dependence on natural resources and labour-intensive work

"Gender equality and environmental goals are mutually reinforcing and create a virtuous circle that will help accelerate the achievement of the SDGs [Sustainable Development Goals]" (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2021)

The impact of climate change is one that has profound consequences for humans and has emerged as one of the biggest global challenges in recent decades. The effects of climate change vary according to location, socioeconomic status, and gender. An International Labour Organization study (2019) said that "...in 2030, 2.2 percent of total working hours worldwide will be lost to high temperatures, a productivity loss equivalent to 80 million full-time jobs". The United Nations (2009) highlighted that across genders, women are considered to be highly vulnerable and disproportionately affected by climate change than men to the impact of climate change.

Felt more in low-income countries

In addition, women across the world face severe risks to their health, safety, and quality of life. However, women in developing and less developed countries (especially in low-income areas) are more vulnerable to climate change because of their dependence on natural resources and labour-intensive work for their livelihood. Women are more likely to live in poverty than men, which is just one of several social, economic, and cultural variables that makes them more susceptible to the effects of climate change. Women from low-income households are more at risk because they are more responsible for food, water, and other homely unpaid work.

Due to the climate crisis, more time and effort are needed to obtain basic necessities. Rural women often shoulder the burden of ensuring access to clean water, adequate cooking fuel, and nutritious food for their families. Women may be at increased risk for health and safety because they must travel long distances every day to collect water and fuel. This is why climate change has a disproportionate effect on rural women. Women in low-income countries (predominantly South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa) engage in climate-vulnerable occupations such as farming and other labour-intensive work. According to the ILO, over 60% of working women in southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are still in agriculture, where they are often underpaid and overworked. Despite being the backbone of the food production system, women own only about 10% of the land used for farming. A McAllister (2023) study has highlighted how there could be 1.2 billion climate refugees by 2050.

Gender-specific issues

According to a UN study, most (80%) of those displaced by climate-related disasters are women and girls. Women, especially those from vulnerable communities, face particular difficulties during and after natural disasters. When women are uprooted, they are more susceptible to prejudice and exploitation. For instance, after the earthquake in Nepal in 2015, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) found women were more exposed to trafficking and exploitation. Separation from social networks, a higher risk of gender-based violence, and decreased access to employment, education, and essential health services, such as sexual and reproductive health care and psychosocial support, are just some gender-specific issues women face.

Women make up a disproportionately large portion of the agricultural workforce in emerging countries. Climate change impacts agricultural productivity negatively and significantly. Heat stress affects workers a lot in this sector, especially in South Asia and Africa. Changing precipitation patterns and more frequent extreme weather events are just the beginning of the problems. Their effects on crop production and food security fall disproportionately on these people, who already face significant challenges in obtaining resources, expertise, and technology. Women engaged in agriculture do not have access to quality inputs and possess low education and technical knowledge. Thus, women farmers and labourers are vulnerable and seriously impacted. Various studies also reflect how flooding has increased water scarcity and also violence against and the exploitation of women.

Invest in women's education, training

Climate change impacts can particularly exacerbate poverty and socioeconomic vulnerabilities among women. Climate change is also linked to women's inequality. According to estimates, 130 million people could be pushed into poverty by 2050 due to climate change risks, natural disasters, and food inflation, impacting women's inequality. When it comes to adjusting to a changing climate, women have a lot to offer. Investments in women's education, training, and access to resources are essential if we are to be resilient to the impact of climate change. Reduce the negative impacts of climate change on people's living standards by teaching them how to practise sustainable agriculture, water management, and energy generation. For example, in India, the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) teaches women farmers how to respond to shifting climate patterns to support themselves better financially. Therefore, it is essential to support groups that educate the public, train people to adapt to climate change and invest in women's education and training in environmentally-friendly farming methods.

Women's participation in climate policy decision-making at all levels is crucial for effective climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies as well as getting decent employment. As women face greater risks in climate change, gender parity in decision-making bodies is essential. One such programme in South Asia is the Gender and Climate Change Development Programme, which aims to increase women's influence in policymaking by providing them with a stronger voice. Globally, similar efforts are required for efficient climate change adaptation and mitigation. We can say that developing and emerging countries urgently need women-led climate action.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An unfair response

I write this letter as Executive Chairman, Healthcare Global Enterprises Ltd. along with 10 other personalities.

India's 77th Independence Day has passed, celebrating the country's freedom from colonial captivity and also marking the advent of the freedom of speech and expression in a secular country.

In a democracy, one should always welcome diverse, dissimilar, and contrarian views that at times may challenge the establishment and the underlying systems and processes —this is the hallmark of a true democracy that India is.

A few faculty members of the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, retired and in service, had written an open letter, where they had urged leaders of corporate India to de-fund misinformation and hate speech, which they allege is being disseminated through news channels and social media.

In a free country, it is imperative that one first reflects on the views to see whether the claims make sense or not. If one is in disagreement with any views expressed by a section of the society — like those expressed by the IIM-B faculty — one is free to challenge them with a counter argument.

Consequently, there must be healthy debate based on democratic principles.

Unfortunately, the path taken by some retired civil servants, by jumping the gun and seeking action against the IIM-B faculty, is not a democratic option. It is far from appropriate, and even unfair.

It is hoped that corporate India and India's citizens will analyse the plea made by the IIM faculty and find out whether fake news and fabricated stories are being spread through media of all forms — whether to seek votes or to play divisive politics based on caste, creed, colour, ethnicity, religion, faith or gender.

If the claims are true and factual, a collective effort should be made to find sustainable solutions towards protecting the democratic fabric of our country.

Dr. B.S. Ajaikumar,
Bengaluru

To read more letters online, scan the QR code. Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Living in the age of moral dystopia

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We are living in the age of moral dystopia, a norm-less era where it is difficult for men and women to be human and convenient for the state to be less than neutral, just, and fair. Leaders not only fail to keep their pledges, but they are not even expected to keep them. The government wears its majoritarian colours with pride, unabashed and unedifying. In a tragic case of downward filtration, it all percolates down to everyday lived experience of the faceless multitudes. Monuments, offices, and houses all seem to be judged by the faith or political predilections of their builders and occupants. If you question the actions of the government or the actions of non-state actors taking out hate marches, you become the most vulnerable. Conformism is the norm today. Humanism, justice, and freedom have all been consigned to the deep freeze, to be retrieved at some indefinable point in future.

A changed value system

Take the case of activist-public speaker Yogita Bhayana, who helped rebuild the shop of an old Muslim man days after goons had set it on fire in Gurugram. The moment this news was shared on social media along with the video of the grateful man, many trolled Ms. Bhayana. Some advised her, rather sarcastically, to go and help another 50-60 men down the road who had suffered too. Others reminded her of the Hindu women in the neighbourhood. In a not-too-distant past, Ms. Bhayana would have been hailed for promoting communal harmony. But not today.

Now, the value system has changed, and shared living is no longer a cherished ideal for millions. It is to each their own, as Anis discovered in Nuh around the same time. He had given shelter to three Hindu men who faced a danger to their life from an approaching mob. The men were grateful to be alive. A day later, his house was damaged by a bulldozer, which went on an overdrive in the State. Finally, the Punjab and Haryana High Court stepped in, stating clearly, "Apparently, without any demolition orders and notices, the law-and-order problem is being used as a ruse to bring down buildings without following the procedure established by law. The issue also arises whether the buildings belonging to a particular community are being brought down under the guise of law-and-order problem and an exercise of ethnic cleansing is being conducted by the State."

Moral fibre was long since damaged, but this tattered? How else does one explain the sordid and public humiliation of women in Manipur and the whataboutery that followed in the top echelons of power? How does one even attempt to rationalise women handing over women to a mob? Or people marching in favour of the men accused of gang-rape of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua?

Today, we wish to hold to account a king or an invader for the ignominy he probably visited some 400 or 1,000 years ago. But we find our lips glued together when it comes to seeking justice for victims in Manipur or Haryana. We talk of invaders and how they broke many a place of worship, some real and some imagined, and set about righting historical wrongs. And how do we do that? By attacking the place of worship of the faith of the monarch who died hundreds of years ago. And so, we have had repeated attacks on mosques in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, and now Haryana. We have stayed quiet. After all, what is a mosque but a *dhancha* or structure, as senior BJP leader L.K. Advani once said with respect to the Babri Masjid? Now, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath says the same about Gyanvapi. There is no regret, no sense of shame. It is just history on rewind. And we just watch.

These are indeed times of moral foibles. Every nation has its moments of neuroses. In our case, it is collective short-term amnesia. We watch and we forget. We read and we move on. Be it a man being lynched, a shop being demolished, or a woman being brutalised, our memory seems to be like a sieve. We retain very little. Are we weary of the daily sordid spectacle? Probably. Are we too occupied with the daily goings-on to really care? Most likely. Either way, it emboldens intolerant, even violent non-state actors to do what they do. If it were about a mosque here or a shop there, the rot or the mob would have been controllable. It is not, and there lies the problem.

The lack of intervention

Today, the executioners of injustice don't need a mob with its tridents, hammers and pickaxes. Today, bulldozers get down to work. Even as a man's life's earning in the form of a tiny shop or a small concrete dwelling is razed to the ground, yesterday's mob member is today's selfie-seeker. Some make a video to upload on social media. We saw a cow vigilante pounce upon a weak man and record himself harassing and abusing him. We saw how a policeman on a train killed his supervising officer and three Muslim passengers and then made a video hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Adityanath even as one of the bleeding men took his last breath near his boots. People often make videos, but few attempt to save the life of innocent people. As for bulldozer victims, they are spectators to their own destruction, brick by brick, slab by slab. Sections of the media, meanwhile, hail the rising pile of debris as a proof of instant justice.

The ferocity of destruction through bulldozers, the bestiality of mob lynchings, the brutalisation of a large segment of our population – we have seen it all. Quietly, maybe even wearily. Anomie is a lived experience in 'New India'.

Conformism is the norm today. Humanism, justice, and freedom have all been consigned to the deep freeze, to be retrieved at some indefinable point in future

A sand storm is brewing in Andhra

Failure to act on illegal sand mining could spell trouble for the YSRCP's image

STATE OF PLAY

V. Raghavendra
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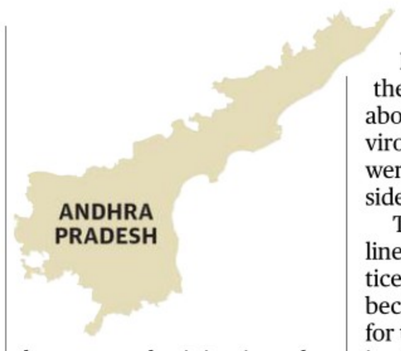


Sand mining in Andhra Pradesh has once again became a political hot potato. Ever since it withdrew the free sand policy, the YSR Congress Party government has been fending off accusations that it is working hand in glove with the sand mafia and letting them go off the hook. The opposition Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has alleged that YSRCP leaders have looted sand worth ₹40,000 crore in the last four years.

Political charges aside, the fact that the State Department of Mines and Geology, the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, and the State Expert Appraisal Committee of successive governments have been pulled up by courts and the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for not ensuring due diligence in giving clearances shows that rules have been fragrantly violated.

During the TDP regime, sand was available free of cost and buyers only had to pay for transportation. The TDP said this done to encourage the construction sector. However, corruption charges flew thick and fast. An investigation by the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board reportedly found that sand was being extracted beyond permissible limits with mechanical excavators by unlicensed contractors at various places. This was being done to meet the burgeoning requirement of the construction sector. The Board said this practice had caused irreparable damage to riverbeds and coastal ecosystems.

Soon after coming to power in 2019, the YSRCP government imposed a temporary ban on sand mining in order to streamline mining activities and check corruption. It later issued the New Sand Mining Policy to ensure that sand mining is carried out in a sustainable manner and complies with environmental regulations; make sand available at affordable prices; and raise valuable revenues to the State exchequer. The government appointed the Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation as its 'agent' for achieving these objectives.

It was in line with the New Sand Mining Policy that the Delhi-based Jayaprakash Power Ventures of the Jaypee Group was awarded, through a tender process, the lease to take up sand mining, storage and sales for a period of two years.

The government has claimed that the situation has improved. However, courts have exposed the deficiencies in the manner in which the government has been tackling the plundering of the minor mineral. In a recent order against illegal sand mining in Chittoor district, the Chennai Bench of the NGT declared permissions given for semi-mechanised mining at sand reaches in the B-2 category (lease areas measuring 5-25 hectares) and environmental clearances as illegal saying they violated the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016. Prima facie, a direction by the NGT to the Secretary of the Union Environment Ministry in the same order, inquiring about the amendments to environmental clearances that were granted, reveals the dark side of sand mining.

The NGT order also underlined the damage of this practice. It remarked that "it has become a common practice for the Irrigation Departments in different States to permit sand mining in rivers in stretches less than 25 hectares with impunity oblivious of the need to protect the riverine ecosystems which can be possible only if sand replenishment studies and detailed environmental impact assessments are undertaken for the entire river basin, prior to mining." It warned that "unscientific mining on riverine and wetland ecosystems including man-made water bodies can spell disaster and have long-term consequences for the riverine/lake ecosystems which in turn impact the well-being of the people." It also noted that "scientific studies are being avoided for short-term gains at the cost of environmental interests."

The TDP has argued that the NGT order is applicable to all sand reaches in the State, which the government has said is a deliberate misinterpretation.

It is imperative that the party in power and the government show zero tolerance for illegal sand mining, especially given the massive toll that it takes on the environment. Studies have noted that extracting sand at a greater rate than that at which it is naturally replenished has adverse consequences. If governments make unsubstantiated claims about the problem being solved, they will only be seen as protecting and promoting their own interests.

25% PMUY customers took no cylinder refill or just one last year

Of 9.58 crore PMUY households, 1.18 crore bought no refills in 2022-23, another 1.51 crore bought one refill

DATA POINT

Maitri Porecha

One out of every four beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), a scheme that aims to make LPG gas cylinders available to rural and deprived households, either did not take any cylinders during 2022-2023 or took just one refill.

The spike in LPG cylinder prices made them an expensive proposition even for subsidised households; rates have almost doubled since 2018, reaching ₹903 a cylinder in March 2023 even after a subsidy of ₹200 per cylinder was offered to PMUY beneficiaries in May 2022.

One in nine PMUY beneficiaries, or over 1.18 crore households, bought no refill cylinders at all last year (**Chart 1**). Another 1.51 crore beneficiaries bought only one refill cylinder, according to data from three major gas companies – Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) – obtained via multiple Right to Information queries.

Between January 2018 and March 2023, there was an 82% spike in the rate of subsidised LPG cylinders. In January 2018, a PMUY household could purchase a subsidised cylinder for ₹495.64; by March 2023, the same cylinder cost ₹903 (**Chart 2**). Factoring in the additional subsidy of ₹200 for the 14.2 kg LPG cylinders for all consumers, announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi this week, this cylinder will now cost ₹703.

A non-subsidised LPG cylinder of 14.2 kg cost ₹741 in January 2018. By March 2023, the price of the cylinder had increased by 49% to ₹1,103. As the recent ₹200 subsidy is applicable for all consumers, the LPG cylinder for non-PMUY households will now cost ₹903.

The average PMUY beneficiary refilled less than four LPG cylinders during 2022-23. According to the RTI replies, the per household consumption of PMUY beneficiaries for IOCL was 3.53 cylinder refills; for HPCL, it was 3.72 refills; and for BPCL, it was 4.02 refills. This is in sharp contrast to non-PMUY consumers, whose per household consumption of LPG cylinders was 6.67 refills. (**Chart 3**)

According to RTI replies by IOCL and HPCL, subsidies extended to select non-PMUY beneficiaries amounted to at least an additional ₹2,454.81 crore last year. "Subsidy is not the decision of the Oil Marketing Companies and the amount changes based on the difference between the Retail Selling Price (RSP) linked to international price of LPG and the subsidised cost to customer as decided by the government," the RTI reply states.

Over 70% of the LPG retail price in Delhi is determined by the international Free On Board (FOB) price of LPG. FOB is a weighted average of the Saudi Aramco contract price for Butane (60%) and Propane (40%). Apart from base price, factors such as import charges, bottling charges, freight, delivery charges, GST and distributor commission determine the price of LPG.

Chart 4 shows the international FOB price of LPG in $ per metric tonne between January 2019 and July 2023. The FOB price of LPG had been on a rising trend since May 2020. In March 2022, it was the highest in at least the last three years ($952 per metric tonnes). Due to the absence of subsidy back then, the hike in FOB price was borne by the consumer.

Notably, the FOB prices have been rapidly falling since April 2022, coinciding with the first subsidy announcement in May 2022. The FOB prices cooled down to a new low of $385 per metric tonnes by July 2023. Soon after, the latest subsidy announcement was made.

With inputs from Vignesh Radhakrishnan and Jasmin Nihalani

Running out of gas

The data for the charts were sourced from RTI replies to Madhya Pradesh-based activist Chander Shekhar Gaur by Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Petroleum, and reports from the Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell

Chart 1 | The chart shows the number of beneficiaries who bought no refill and one refill (in crore)*

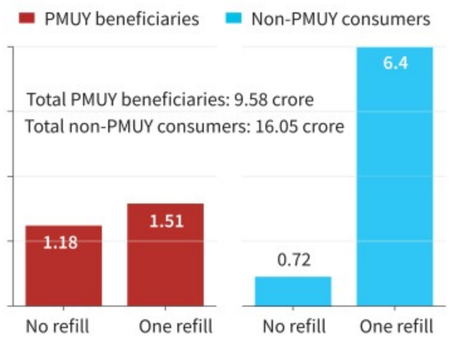


Chart 2 | The chart shows the price of subsidised LPG cylinders for PMUY beneficiaries and non-subsidised cylinders (in ₹)

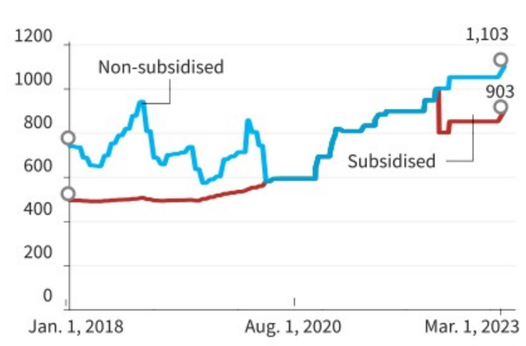


Chart 3 | The chart shows the average refills of LPG cylinders per household in 2022-23 by PMUY and non-PMUY consumers

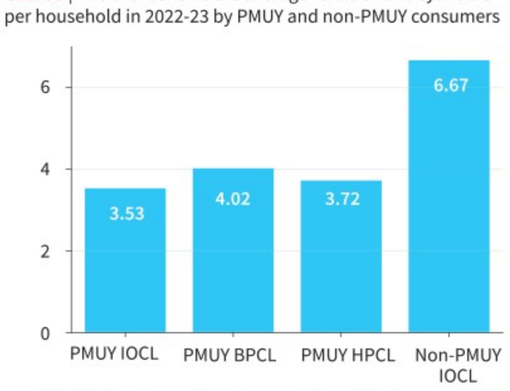
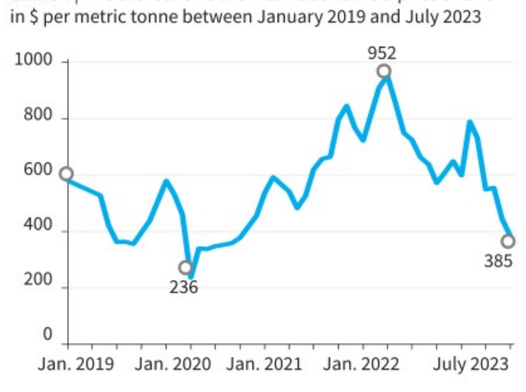


Chart 4 | The chart shows the international FOB price of LPG in $ per metric tonne between January 2019 and July 2023



*BPCL did not provide data regarding refills for non-PMUY beneficiaries

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 5, 1973

UPSC re-assessing exam. system for IAS

New Delhi, Sept. 4: The Union Public Service Commission is at present engaged in the task of re-assessing the examination system for various services, including the Indian Administrative Service and the engineering services. The main purpose is to rationalise the entire structure of the examination system "with a view to bringing it in line with the changed conditions."

It is learnt that a good deal of exercise has already been done, though it may take some more time before the new features are introduced. The idea is to lay greater emphasis on a candidate's capacity to grasp fundamentals and discourage cramming of subjects. The Department of Personnel also, it is learnt, is of the view that the general scheme of examination should not be a mere repetition of the degree course examinations. The UPSC may announce the changes after all the necessary details are worked out. An important factor that will influence the scheme is the recent decision of the Commission to increase the upper age limit for the engineering services and the IAS as a result of which candidates with a greater understanding of the current happenings are expected to take the examinations.

A problem that has been worrying the UPSC is the poor performance of candidates sitting for the examination held for recruitment to the Indian Statistical Service. The required number of suitable candidates have not been forthcoming. In consultation with experts in the field, the Commission has already initiated action to examine the causes for the unsatisfactory performance of the candidates appearing for this examination and also to consider whether the existing scheme of the examination needs any modification.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 5, 1923

Tea trade

London, September 4: Dealing with the increased imports of China tea which for three months ending August 31st were double the same period for last year, the "Daily Telegraph's" city correspondent warns the public to exercise the closet scrutiny before buying tea share for investment. He says that while abnormal prices will probably be maintained in the present season, there is an indication that the high retail prices will considerably check consumption.

From Page One

Chinese President will not attend G-20 summit

"We hope the New Delhi summit will form consensus on that, send out a message of confidence, and promote shared prosperity and development," Ms. Mao said.

Asked why Mr. Xi will skip the summit, Ms. Mao declined to provide a reason, only saying that "China has all along attached great importance to and taken an active part in G-20 events." "During this year's G-20 summit, Premier Li Qiang will share China's views and propositions on G-20 cooperation, and promote greater solidarity and cooperation among G-20 countries and joint response to global economic and development challenges. We are ready to work with all parties to make the G-20 summit a success and contribute to the steady recovery of the global economy and sustainable development."

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador have already regretted being unable to attend the summit. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Mexican Economy Minister Raquel Buenrostro Sanchez will attend in their place.

Official sources played down the absence of the three leaders. "In today's world with so many demands on the leaders' time, it is not always possible for every leader to attend every summit," official sources said, on background, in a written response to media reports about the absence of some countries at the Heads of State/Heads of Government levels.

"From time to time, many leaders skip summits for their own reason... These things do not reflect anything about the host country," they added in the response, pointing out that at least six leaders did not attend the Rome G-20 summit in 2021.

Negotiators this week are meeting for one final push towards a joint statement, which every G-20 summit has so far been able to issue. That might not, however, happen in New Delhi given Russia and China opposing a reference to Ukraine, as well as other differences between the developed and developing countries on issues such as climate financing. As *The Hindu* reported previously, Chinese officials have also objected to some of India's additions, including the use of the Sanskrit phrase *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*.

Ready to assess capacity of 13 hill States: govt.

The Centre sent a reminder on May 19, 2023 to all the 13 States to undertake the study and submit the action plan "as early as possible".

The government affidavit has now urged the court to intervene with the Himalayan States to submit their action-taken reports and action plans in a time-bound manner. It said minute and extensive information was essential to assess the "accurate carrying capacity" of each hill station as per guidelines prepared by the GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment.

The government said the States could constitute committees headed by their respective Chief Secretaries to collect information on the load-carrying capacity of their hill stations, cities, and eco-sensitive zones.

It suggested that the 13-member technical committee headed by the Director of the GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment could evaluate the information collected by the States.

The Centre said experts could be drawn from multiple disciplines, including hydrology, remote sensing, Himalayan geology, forestry, wildlife, architecture disaster management, pollution and groundwater protection.

In August, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud had suggested an expert committee to conduct a "complete and comprehensive" study on the carrying capacity of the Himalayan region in the country, where unplanned development had caused devastation in recent times, terming it a "very important issue".

Pledge allegiance to Constitution, SC tells MP

Earlier in the day, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the Union government, demanded that Mr. Lone be made to file an affidavit pledging his allegiance to the Constitution of India.

He had urged the Supreme Court to act, saying if nothing was done, it might encourage others and "the efforts of the nation to bring normalcy, which has been substantially successful, will be affected".

Mr. Mehta said Mr. Lone was no ordinary person but a sitting MP. The Solicitor-General said Mr. Lone would have been the lead petitioner following the withdrawal of Shah Faesal, had the court not given the generic title 'In Re Article 370 of the Constitution' to the case.

"He [Mr. Lone] should file an affidavit saying that 'I owe allegiance to the Constitution of India because I am before the highest court of the country'. He must say 'I strongly oppose terrorism and secession by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir'... He must come on record," Mr. Mehta said.

Appearing for other respondents supporting the Centre's move to repeal Article 370, senior advocates Rakesh Dwivedi and Mahesh Jethmalani said "if he is invoking the Constitution of India here, he cannot stand outside the Constitution of India... It is a matter of propriety".

Mr. Mehta even said the court should "take up" the submissions of Mr. Lone only if he "apologised".

Navy brings out maritime infrastructure road map

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt released the Maritime Infrastructure Perspective Plan (MIPP), 2023-37 at the second edition of the biennial Naval Commanders Conference, which commenced on Monday. Also released were the Indian Register for Shipping (IRS) rules and regulations handbook, family logbook, and electronic service document project

"The MIPP aims to synchronise and enmesh the infrastructure requirements of the Navy, over the next 15 years, through a comprehensive perspective plan model. The Plan Document is aligned with the government's vision on creation of sustainable infrastructure, and encompasses salients for compliance with broader policy directives on PM Gati Shakti project, disaster resilience, transition to net zero, among others," the Navy said.

The IRS Rules and Regulations Handbook for construction and classification of Naval combatants has been revised since the previous 2015 edition to cater for technological advancements and Aatmanirbharta, the Navy said.

IAF begins Western Air Command's annual exercise

The operations from September 4 to 14 will see activation of all frontline assets and force multipliers of the Air Force from the LoC to the LAC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The annual training exercise, Trishul, of the Western Air Command (WAC) of the Indian Air Force (IAF) began on Monday. The exercise will see activation of all air assets and force multipliers spread across the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China.

"The exercise is scheduled from September 4 to 14 and will validate the command's operational preparedness and will see the employment of all the frontline assets from fighter jets, transport aircraft, helicopters and other force multipliers in high tempo," a defence official said.

The exercise will be paused for a few days coinciding with the G-20 summit when the armed forces will be on high alert, coinciding with the high-profile event and the threat perception.

Since the stand-off with China in eastern Ladakh in May 2020, which is still ongoing, the Indian military has seen a major reorientation from its focus from Pakistan to China and the IAF has maintained a high tempo of operations. As the Army mobilised in a big way, the IAF pressed in its entire transport fleet and airlifted over 68,000 troops, 330 infantry vehicles and over 90 tanks in addition to artillery guns, as reported by *The Hindu* earlier.

Intense drills: The IAF and the Army carrying out training in a remote high-altitude area on September 1. ANI

The two sides recently held the 19th round of Corps Commander talks towards disengagement and de-escalation on the Line of Actual Control to end the stand-off which was immediately followed by Major-General-level talks at Depsang and Demchok to find a way out. However, the two militaries continue to remain deployed with extensive build-up on both sides.

Last Monday, China released the "2023 edition of the standard map of China", which continues to show the entire State of Arunachal Pradesh and the Aksai Chin region within its borders. India had lodged a strong protest.

Macron to raise risk of 'partitioning of the world' at G-20 meet

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Emmanuel Macron

French President Emmanuel Macron will speak against "partitioning of the world" in the G-20 summit to be held here on September 9 and 10 and focus on deepening French engagement with the Indo-Pacific region during his September 10 Dhaka visit, the French government said on Monday.

Beginning with his visit to Colombo in July, Mr. Macron has been expanding the scope of French relations with South Asia and his upcoming visit to India and Bangladesh indicates the intensifying focus on the Indo-Pacific region where French historic presence goes back to the colonial era.

"The President of the French Republic will go to New Delhi to take part in the G-20 Summit, on September 9 and 10. He will then go to Dhaka, Bangladesh on September 10 for a bilateral visit. The G-20 Summit will allow the President of the French Republic to maintain the constant dialogue with his counterparts from all continents in order to fight against the risks of partitioning of the world. In Bangladesh, the President will continue the concrete declination of the French strategy in the Indo-Pacific," a press release from the French Embassy in Dhaka stated.

President Macron visited Sri Lanka in the last week of July in a historic stopover and met with Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe. Prior to that he toured Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu in the western Pacific region.

During his visit to these three island nations, Mr. Macron focused on the problem of debt that these economies are facing. He did not specifically single out China but criticised trends of "neo-imperialism" targeting Pacific island nations.

The visit to India for G-20 summit and a brief stay in Bangladesh are however of a different category as India has been a strategic partner of France for quarter of a century and Dhaka has financial and strategic temptations for Paris.

CJI asks petitioners if Article 370 is above Basic Structure and amending powers of Parliament

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud on Monday said petitioners were placing Article 370 on a pedestal loftier than the Basic Structure doctrine of the Constitution and even beyond the reach of the amending powers of Parliament.

The Chief Justice, heading a Constitution Bench hearing the challenge to the repeal of Article 370, was responding to submissions by senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for the petitioner side, that Article 370 (1) had assumed a permanent character as soon as the Jammu and Kashmir Constituent Assembly was dissolved in 1957 after the framing of the State Constitution. Mr. Sibal argued that clause (3) of Article 370, which empowered the President to abrogate the Article as done on August 5, 2019, had ceased to exist.

Mr. Sibal said Article 368 (Parliament's power to amend the Constitution) did not apply to Article 370 as the special procedure for repealing or modifying the Article was only available under clause (3) of Article 370. Under Article 370 (3) and its proviso, the constitutional provision can be declared inoperative by the President through a notification, provided the Constituent Assembly of J&K recommends the

Justice D.Y. Chandrachud

move. "So, there is in our Constitution a provision to which even the amending power available in respect of the rest of the Constitution under Article 369 is unavailable. This provision lies even above the Basic Structure," the Chief Justice questioned his logic.

Mr. Sibal said neither the court nor the petitioners had to "advise" the Union government on how to abrogate Article 370. The call to repeal the constitutional provision was a "political process". The solution was political.

"In other words, you are saying there is no solution to Kashmir within the Constitution... That we have to look outside the Constitution... Is that your hypothesis? Mr. Sibal, all solutions have to be within the Constitution," the Chief Justice said. The government, which had till recently laboured to convince the court that it had not violated the procedure under Article 370(3) to abrogate the constitutional provision, suddenly began arguing on Monday that the President had a "plenary power" to repeal Article 370. "It is a *sui generis* (unique) power given only in this Article to the highest constitutional authority... It is neither a constituent or legislative or executive power, but has the flavour of all three," Additional Solicitor-General K.M. Nataraj, argued for the Centre.

Mr. Sibal said such "myths" presented by the Centre need to be "disabused" immediately.

"Why did they change the term 'Constituent Assembly of the State' to the 'Legislative Assembly of the State' in the proviso to Article 370 if the President had such plenary powers as they claim... In fact, Article 370 limits the power of the President," the senior advocate said.

Cabin crew member murdered in Mumbai

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

A 24-year-old woman flight attendant was found dead in Mumbai following which the police arrested the residential society's housekeeping staffer on the charge of murder, an officer said on Monday.

Rupal Ogrey hailed from Chhattisgarh and came to Mumbai in April for training with the Air India, the officer said. She was found dead late on Sunday night in a flat near Andheri, he said.

The police have arrested Vikram Athwal under Section 302 (murder) of the IPC, an officer from the Powai police station said.

Doctors' team visits relief camps in Manipur, flags poor living conditions

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

A team of doctors on Monday flagged the abysmal living conditions in relief camps in Manipur that is in the grip of an ethnic conflict. Nearly 70,000 people displaced by the violence stay in 334 such camps.

A fact-finding team of five doctors from the non-profit Indian Doctors for Peace and Development (IDPD) visited relief camps in both Meitei- and Kuki-dominated areas on September 1 and 2.

The team found 194 people from 45 families living in the Khumanlankpak sports hostel in Imphal district, with a room to each family. There are just 20 toilets. "What was distressing was there was an acute shortage of piped water and the families had to carry buckets to and fro," Shakeel Ur Rahman, general secretary, IDPD, said.

In relief camps under the Sapormeina Primary Health Centre in Kangpokpi district in the hills, up to 600 Kuki inmates were staying, with one room for up to three families, the team noted.

Hard time: With no leafy green vegetables, eggs or milk available, children are facing severe Vitamin A deficiency, say doctors. AFP

The medical infrastructure was also poor in Kangpokpi district, with no facilities for surgery at the District Hospital. The conflict had also left the super-specialty medical facilities in the Imphal Valley out of bounds for the Kukis. "There is no functional OT [operation theatre] in Kangpokpi District Hospital, neither are there any blood bank facilities. There are at least four pregnant women in the Kuki relief camp that we visited who are at the cusp of delivery, but may have to be rushed to Kohima or Dimapur [in Nagaland], which is a 24-hour journey, in case of any emergency," Arun Mitra, president, IDPD, said.

With no leafy vegetables, eggs or milk available, children are facing severe Vitamin A deficiency. "The capacity to restore Vitamin A in a child's body is much less than that of an adult. We are expecting Vitamin A deficiency emerging in form of an endemic. Night blindness is a very common fallout of deficiency," Dr. Rahman said.

"Inmates are only eating dal, rice and potatoes for three meals a day. The situation of food shortage in the camps is so bad that each inmate gets one egg every two weeks. Lactating mothers are not receiving enough nutrition to produce breast milk. A five-day-old baby was being fed diluted milk powder because of lack of mother's milk or its nearest substitute – cow's milk," he said.

With connectivity between the Kuki and Meitei zones disrupted, there is also an acute shortage of vaccine supplies. No special immunisation drives, especially against measles, had been undertaken in the relief camps visited, the team noted.

Manipur police file case against EGI for 'promoting enmity'

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Manipur police have registered a case, under relevant Sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), against the Editors Guild of India (EGI) for allegedly promoting enmity between different groups after the latter published a report on media's reportage of the ethnic violence in the State on September 2.

The EGI said it received several representations, including a written complaint on July 12 by the Army's 3rd Corps headquarters citing specific examples of the media in Manipur, suggesting that it may be playing "a major role in arousing passion and not letting sustainable peace to come in".

In Imphal, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that his government had filed a First Information Report (FIR) against the president and three members of the EGI and accused them of trying to provoke clashes in the State. He said that at a time when many have been killed and left homeless, the EGI published a "totally one-sided" report.

The FIR was filed based on a complaint by N. Sarat Singh, a social worker from Imphal West. In the complaint, he said that he has been "working locally to bring peace and help the people stranded in relief camps". The complaint claimed that the EGI report is "false, fabricated and a paid news and sponsored by Kuki militants."

The EGI report stated that there is extreme pressure on journalists whether Meitei or tribal, to reflect the dominant view of their ethnic societies and the situation was made more difficult with the ban on the Internet, that is an essential tool of modern journalism.

Complaint filed against Udhayanidhi in Bihar court

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

A complaint has been filed against Tamil Nadu Sports Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin before the Chief Judicial Magistrate Court at Muzaffarpur in Bihar for his remarks on *Sanatana Dharma*. Lawyer Sudhir Kumar Ojha has filed the complaint saying Mr. Udhayanidhi's statement had hurt the religious sentiments of crores of Hindus.

Bihar BJP State president Samrat Choudhary too slammed Mr. Udhayanidhi, and sought a clarification from the Rashtriya Janata Dal and the Janata Dal(U) over the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) leader's remark.

"I have filed a criminal case against Tamil Nadu Sports Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin and his father M.K. Stalin who is the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu," Mr. Ojha said.

The court has accepted the complaint and hearing in the case will take place on September 14.

BJP targets INDIA leaders over Tamil Nadu Minister's remarks

Rajnath says DMK has attacked *Sanatana Dharma* and Congress is quiet on it; Dharmendra Pradhan says leaders of the Opposition alliance seem to be competing with each other to abuse Indian civilisation, its core belief and Hindu dharma

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A BJP delegation submits a 'protest letter' to the Resident Commissioner at Tamil Nadu Bhavan in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

The BJP on Monday continued its criticism of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) leader Udhayanidhi Stalin over his remarks on *Sanatana Dharma*, with senior Union Ministers asking if partners of Tamil Nadu's ruling party in the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), particularly the Congress, agreed with the comments.

The Tamil Nadu Minister, in a speech at a meeting of the Tamil Nadu Progressive Writers and Artists Association in Chennai on Saturday, said *Sanatana Dharma* was against equality and social justice. He likened it to "coronavirus, malaria, and dengue", and said such things should be eradicated.

Union Minister Rajnath Singh hit out at the Opposition alliance's "silence" on the remarks, warning that the nation would not forgive them unless they apologised for remarks.

"The DMK has attacked *Sanatana Dharma* and Congress is quiet on it. I want to ask [Rajasthan Chief Minister] Ashok Gehlot why he does not speak, why [Congress leaders] Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and [Mallikarjun] Kharge do not say what is their thinking on *Sanatana Dharma*," Mr. Singh asked. "*Sanatana Dharma* gives the message of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* and it considers the whole world as one family. The DMK leader should be asked if he has a clarification regarding his statement. The INDIA alliance should apologise; otherwise, the nation won't forgive."

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal asked the Congress if INDIA parties had met in Mumbai to finalise its agenda against *Sanatana Dharma* and how to finish it off.

"Is this your '*mohabbat ki dukan*' [shop of love]," he asked while accusing the Congress of spewing venom on the Hindu religion.

At a press conference at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan targeted the INDIA bloc, and said the leaders of the "*ghamandia gathbandhan*" [arrogant alliance] "seem to be competing with each other" to "abuse Indian civilisation, its core belief and the Hindu dharma".

Mr. Pradhan questioned the silence of Nationalist Congress Party supremo Sharad Pawar, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and other INDIA leaders, accusing them of practising appeasement politics for votes.

He demanded that the INDIA bloc, especially the Congress, clarify if abusing Hindus and hurting "India's majority community" was their definition of freedom of expression.

"K.C. Venugopal, a prominent Congress leader, said the Congress believes in '*sarva dharma sambhav*' and that the party respects freedom of expression. Is abusing Hindus freedom of expression for you," Mr. Pradhan asked. "This is not going to work. We condemn it in the strongest words."

All sects, communities, ways of worship and views born in India are part of *Sanatana Dharma*, Mr. Pradhan said.

Union Minister Anurag Thakur accused INDIA of stooping to any level to win in politics.

Talk of early election means BJP is panicking: Congress

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

A meeting of the newly constituted Congress Working Committee (CWC) and a public rally in Hyderabad, a meeting of the floor leaders of INDIA at party chief Mallikarjun Kharge's official residence in Delhi and a meeting by the parliamentary strategy group to be chaired by Sonia Gandhi ahead of the five-day Special Session of Parliament: the Congress on Monday made a series of political announcements, even as it categorically rejected the idea of "one nation, one election".

Addressing a joint press conference with communication chief Jairam Ramesh, party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, however, said the party was ready for early election.

K.C. Venugopal

"We are prepared for anything. If they want an early election, it means they have totally panicked. After INDIA alliance formation and our three meetings, they have totally panicked," Mr. Venugopal said.

Asked about the party's road map with regard to its opposition to simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha, Assemblies and local bodies, he said the party would have a joint strategy with partners of the INDIA bloc.

Mr. Ramesh said "one nation, one election" was impossible without amending the Constitution, and to do so, there had to be a consensus.

"In 2017, there was a paper of the NITI Ayog, the topic had been discussed extensively in the paper and it mentions what amendments are to to be done. But if you see the terms of reference of the latest committee, they [Narendra Modi government] seem to have decided to conduct 'one nation one election'," Mr. Ramesh alleged.

Mr. Venugopal also said that on Tuesday the party's parliamentary strategy group would meet at Ms. Gandhi's official residence at 5 p.m. and this would be followed by a meeting of floor leaders of like-minded parties at Mr. Kharge's residence at 8 p.m.

Pay equal respect to all religions, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Respecting all religions is the Congress philosophy, the party said on Monday as it tried to play down the comments on *Sanatana Dharma* made by Udhayanidhi Stalin, a Minister in the Tamil Nadu government and son of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.

The BJP not only made it a political issue but also targeted the Congress in the poll-bound States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.

In these Hindi-belt States, the Congress is trying to match the BJP's strident Hindutva politics with its own version and understanding of the politics of faith. However, Home Minister Amit Shah, while addressing a public meeting in Rajasthan on Sunday, accused the Congress of insulting all those who are followers of *Sanatana Dharma*.

"Our view is clear. *Sarva Dharma Sambhava* [equal respect for all religions] is the Congress's ideology. Every political party has the freedom to tell its views. We are respecting everybody's beliefs," Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said at a press conference.

But Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Kamal Nath was not so nuanced and categorically rejected Mr. Udhayanidhi's comments. "That may be his personal comment but I don't agree with him," Mr. Nath told presspersons.

Some key partners of the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) echoed Mr. Nath and distanced themselves from the DMK leader's remarks.

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chairperson Mamata Banerjee said "each and every religion should be equally respected". "I have high regards and respect for the people of Tamil Nadu and South India. But my humble request is respect all, as every religion has separate sentiments. India is a secular and democratic country. India is about unity in diversity," she said.

However, supporting the DMK leader, Communist Party of India (CPI) general secretary D. Raja said, "Perpetuation of caste and gender hierarchies in the name of *Sanatana Dharma* is undoing the Herculean work of reformers like Mahatma Phule, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Periyar."

The DMK leader also found support from Priyank Kharge, a Minister in the Karnataka government, and son of Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge.

Congress chief Kharge constitutes poll panel

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Assembly elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Telangana, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday constituted the party's Central Election Committee (CEC) with 16 members, including himself and his predecessors Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi.

The panel is meant to deliberate on shortlisted names before coming out with the final list of candidates for any Lok Sabha or Assembly elections, including bypolls.

The other members are T.S. Singh Deo, Salman Khurshid, Uttam Kumar Reddy, K.J. George, Pritam Singh, Mohammed Jawed, Amee Yajnik, Omkar Markam, P.L. Punia, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, K.C. Venugopal, Ambika Soni and Madhusudan Mistry.

Among those who did not find a place in the CEC are Mukul Wasnik, Girija Vyas and Mohsina Kidwai.

INBRIEF

Fadnavis apologises for use of force by police on protesters

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday apologised for the police action on protesters demanding reservation for the Maratha community in Jalna district on September 1. The police used lathi-charge and fired tear gas shells to disperse a violent mob at Antarwali Sarathi village in Ambad tehsil, around 75 km from Aurangabad. Mr. Fadnavis, who also holds the Home portfolio, said no coercive method should have been used against peaceful protesters. He said the Jalna incident was very unfortunate, and apologised to the protesters who were injured.

Uma Bharti miffed after no invitation to BJP event

Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Uma Bharti has yet again expressed her displeasure against the BJP, this time on the issue of not being invited to the party's ongoing outreach event, the Jan Aashirwad Yatras. Speaking to presspersons on Sunday, Ms. Bharti reminded the BJP about her contributions for the party, and said that if Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia helped the party form a government in 2020, she too had delivered a win for it in 2003. On Monday, Ms. Bharti followed it up with a series of posts on X platform (formerly Twitter) where she wrote that even if she was invited, she would not go to [any of the five] the yatras or the concluding event [in Bhopal] on September 25.

BSP asks its supporters to choose NOTA in Ghosi bypoll

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) on Monday said it would sit out the Ghosi Assembly byelection scheduled for September 5 and will ask its supporters to vote for the None of the Above (NOTA) option as both the main contesting parties are against the ideas and policies of the BSP. "Our party is not involved in the byelection. As a principle, the BSP refrain from contesting byelections. We have also not extended support to any of the candidates. In such a situation, the BSP supporters would either stay away from polling or press None of the Above [NOTA]," said Vishwanath Pal, the party's State president. The BSP, which gets its mass support from the Dalit voter base, polled 54,248 votes in the 2022 Assembly election in Ghosi.

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, विजयवाडा
School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada
An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
Survey No.4/4, ITI Road, Vijayawada – 520 008, AP., India.
Ref.No.SPAV/Estt./Non-Teach/Rect. Dt: 04.09.2023

CORRIGENDUM

With reference to the advertisement No.03/2023 dated 19.06.2023, the post of **Assistant Registrar (on Deputation)** is withdrawn. The application fee paid by the candidates against this post will be refunded. In this regard, the candidates applied for the post of Assistant Registrar (on Deputation) are required to fill the form available on SPAV website for refund of the application fee by 11.09.2023 and forward the filled in form for refund to **recruitment @spav.ac.in.**
Further, all other posts advertised on deputation vide advertisement No.03/2023 dated 19.06.2023 will be governed by DOPT orders and instructions of Govt. of India from time to time. For further details please visit our website **www.spav.ac.in** **Sd/- Registrar**

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2023 (OJEE-2023)

No: OJEE / 446 Date : 04.09.2023

NOTICE FOR OJEE COUNSELLING FOR ADMISSION IN BAMS / BHMS COURSES, 2023-24

The Counselling and Admission Process for BAMS/BHMS courses for the 2023-24 session of all the Govt. and Private Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic Colleges of Odisha will **start from 08-09-2023** through web-counselling. Candidates interested for admission to BAMS/BHMS must have qualified in NEET-UG - 2023. Only natives of Odisha are eligible for all State Quota seats. All Odisha and out-side Odisha State students are eligible for the All India Quota seats in Private colleges only.

For more information and other details, please visit OJEE website **(www.ojee.nic.in)**.

Sd/-
Chairman, OJEE

h-20 : OIPR-14020/11/0018/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA email : serwsbd2003@yahoo.com
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA.

No: **e-Procurement Notice for PMGSY Works** Date:

1. Name of the Work : **Construction of PMGSY Works - (02 Nos).**
2. Class of Contractor : **"B" & "A" Class** of (Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authority.
3. Estimated Cost : **Varies from Rs.202.49 Lakhs to Rs.548.51 Lakhs (Approximately)**
4. Details projects as per Annexure attached :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding From	Availability of Tender online for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender Technical Bid	Date & Time of opening of tender Financial Bids
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda	CCERWCSBD - Online - 25/2023-24	07.09.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	21.09.2023 up to 05.30 P.M.	18.09.2023 up to 1.00 P.M.	22.09.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	To be intimated separately

5. The details of works can be seen from the web site : **https://www.pmgsytenders.gov.in**
6. Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e-tender web site.

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda.
O-879: OIPR-25182/11/0028/2324

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
"e"Procurement Tender Notice No:- 39/2023-24/SE(W-IV)/EE-VIII/DB/GVMC, Dt: 02-09-2023
Tender Notice No: : **39 /2023-24/SE(W-IV)/EE-VIII/DB/GVMC, Dt: 02-09-2023**
Number of works-01, Value of Works Rs. 157.20 Lakhs
Tender Opening Dt. 02-09-2023, Closing Date 11-09-2023
Note: Further Details at **http://www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**
O/o the EE-VIII **Cell No. 9912349454** **For Commissioner**

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in

Open Tender Enquiry No. 02/2023-24/CD Dated: 05/09/2023

Superintending Engineer / CIVIL DESIGN, PSPCL, E-2, Shakti Vihar, Patiala, invites E-tender for MANUFACTURING, TESTING, SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF 4mm DIAMETER INDENTED HT STEEL WIRE FOR USE IN PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POLES CONFORMING TO IS:6003-1983 (REAFFIRMED 2010)- AT PSPCL PILOT WORKSHOPS MOHALI, MUKTSAR & SARNA---QUANTITY =2250 MT. For detailed NIT & tender specification, please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in (Contact No.-0172-2970263, 0172-2970284) from dated 05.09.2023 from 10:00 AM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

C-616/23 76155/12/2134/2023/27449

E-mail ID: cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in; cebuildings@rediffmail.com; Tel. - (0674)-2391523
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

File No. B-I-Turism-08/2023 Lr. No.-37009 Dt. 1st Sept., 2023

Invitation For Bids - Bid Identification No. C.E. (B) - 25 / 2023-24

1.	The Chief Engineer, Buildings, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for the work, **(1) "Renovation of Maa Budhi Thakurani Temple, Berhampur for the year 2023-24" amounting to Rs. 15,19,98,600/-(Approximate), (2) Development of Public Utility and Social Infrastructure of Maa Hingula Temple Complex at Gopal Prasad, Talcher, Odisha" amounting to Rs.12,94,22,000/- (Approximate), (3) Construction of 50 Bedded Critical Care Covid Hospital Block at Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi (G+4)" amounting to Rs.18,07,42,000/- (Approximate)** as detailed below.		
2.	Nature of work	:	Building Work
3.	No. of work	:	03 Nos.
4.	Bid Cost	:	₹.10,000/- (Each)
5.	Class of Contractor	:	'A' / Special Class
6.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website	:	From dt.08.09.2023 to 17:00 Hours of dt.22.09.2023.
7.	Date of Opening of Bids	:	Dt. 25.09.2023 at 11:30 AM
8.	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.		

Chief Engineer, Buildings, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
B-827: OIPR-34117/11/0055/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE-I, CANTONMENT ROAD, CUTTACK.
Email id :- seeccuttack@gmail.com

"e" Procurement Notice No.ACE, EC-I/15 of 2023-24 (On-line)

1.	Name of Work	:	Construction of one cross drainage work on Distributary No.1 of Taladanda Canal system at RD.29635m of Sukapaika Drainage Channel. **Bid identification No.ACE, EC-I MSD 04 of 2023-24**
2.	Tender Paper Cost (Non-refundable)	:	**Rs.10,000.00 (On-line)**
3.	Bid details are as follows	:	

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Tender Amount (Rs.in Lakh) (Approx.)	EMD	Class of Contra-ctor	Period of Comple-tion	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-I, Cuttack	ACE, EC-I MSD 04 of 2023-24	430.90	Rs.4,30,900/- (On-line)	'A'	9 (Nine) Calendar months	12.09.2023 at 10.00 hrs.	26.09.2023 upto 17.30 hrs.	27.09.2023 at 11.30 hrs.

Other terms and conditions can be seen from the Govt. website "**www.tendersodisha.gov.in**".
All corrigendum / cancellation of tender if any, will only be uploaded in the above web site.

Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-I, Cuttack.
A-519 : OIPR-32370/11/0018/2324

PUNJAB STATE GRAINS PROCUREMENT CORPORATION (PUNGRAIN)
Anaaj Bhawan, Sector-39C, Chandigarh.
Notice Inviting Request for Proposals

Request for Proposal is invited for the empanelment of Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) manufacturers for KMS 2023-24 to supply FRK to Rice Mills in Punjab through Online bids under two bid system. Bids can be submitted till 10:00 AM on 19.09.2023 through https://eproc.punjab.gov.in. The Pre-Bid meeting is scheduled on 08.09.2023 at 11:30 AM and the technical bids will be opened on 19.09.2023 at 12:00 Noon, both at Conference Hall, Anaaj Bhawan, Sector 39/C, Chandigarh in the presence of prospective bidders who may wish to be present. The terms and conditions and other details are also available on http://foodsuppb.gov.in. The cost of the tender is Rs 5,000/- (non-refundable) inclusive of I8% GST. The date and time of opening of financial bids will be notified online to technically eligible bidders.

Note: Request for Proposal will be accepted through e-procurement portal only. Any further communication will be done through e-tendering site in the form of addendum / corrigendum.

NA/12/18653/2023/27485 **MANAGING DIRECTOR, PUNGRAIN**

INBRIEF

U.P. lawyers start three-day strike over baton-charge

A three-day lawyers' strike across Uttar Pradesh began on Monday. The lawyers are protesting against an alleged police baton-charge on advocates in Hapur district last week. The Uttar Pradesh Bar Council announced the strike from September 4 to 6, asking the district Bar associations to boycott their respective courts. All court-related activities have come to a standstill in the State. On August 29, the police in Hapur district allegedly beat protesting lawyers, causing injury to at least six advocates. They were protesting against a police case filed against a fellow lawyer, Priyanka Tyagi.

WB Governor indulging in dictatorial practices: Minister

The ongoing tussle between the Raj Bhavan and the West Bengal government touched a new low on September 4 with the State's Education Minister, Bratya Basu, accusing the Governor of behaving like a "court jester" and indulging in "dictatorial practices" in a bid to destroy universities in the State. The Minister's scathing criticism came after the Governor appointed interim Vice-Chancellors to 16 State universities late on Sunday evening without holding consultations with the State government.

Vikram lander does a hop, goes to sleep; goodnight till Sept. 22

ISRO hopes to 'wake up' lander and rover when lunar day dawns again; Vikram elevated itself by about 40 cm and landed 30 cm to 40 cm away — the hop experiment has significant bearing on future missions to bring back samples, human flight

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

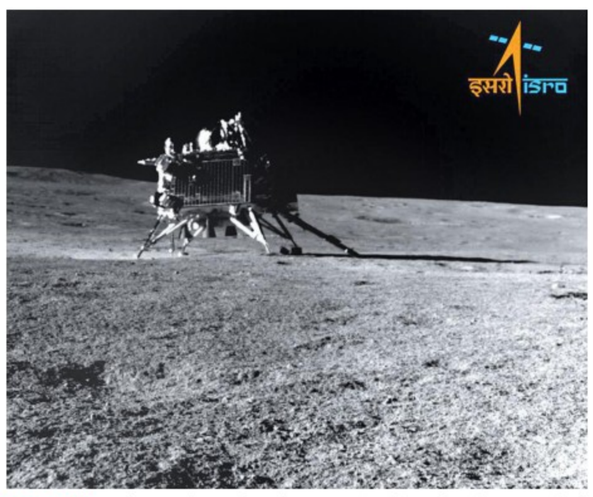
After Chandrayaan-3's rover Pragyan, its lander, Vikram, has been put into sleep mode. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Monday said that it had put Vikram into sleep mode around 8 a.m.

Hours before, the ISRO said, Vikram had achieved another significant milestone as it successfully undertook a hop experiment, elevating itself by about 40 cm as expected and landing safely at a distance of 30 cm to 40 cm. This "kick-start" enthuses future sample return and human missions, it said.

Data received

Before sleep mode was activated, ChaSTE, RAMBHA-LP and ILSA payloads on the lander did *in situ* experiments at the new location.

The data collected were received back on earth. Payloads were now switched off. Lander receivers were kept on, the ISRO said.



On a roll: By doing a hop, Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander exceeded mission expectations, says the ISRO. ANI

On Saturday, the space organisation said that Pragyan had completed its assignments and it had been safely parked and set into sleep mode.

Pragyan's receiver had been kept on.

The ISRO had said that Vikram would fall asleep next to Pragyan once solar power was depleted and battery drained. The agency was hoping that it would wake up Vikram and Pragyan on September 22. "Hoping for their awakening, around September 22, 2023," it said.

The lander and the rover, with a mission life of one lunar day (14 earth days), have scientific payloads to carry out experiments on the lunar surface. "The lander and the rover will stay on the moon for 14 days until they get sunlight," ISRO Chairman S. Somanath had said earlier.

The solar panels on the lander and the rover have stored energy during the lunar day and will recharge their batteries.

Once the sun sets on the moon, temperature can plunge below minus-200 degrees Celsius.

'Kick-start'

The successful hop experiment and kick-start could have significant bearing on the future missions which are launched with an objective to bring back samples from the moon and also future human missions to the moon.

"Vikram lander exceeded its mission objectives. It successfully underwent a hop experiment. On command, it fired the engines, elevated itself by about 40 cm as expected and landed safely at a distance of 30 cm to 40 cm away. Important? This 'kick-start' enthuses future sample return and human missions," ISRO posted on X (formerly Twitter).

It added that all systems performed nominally and are healthy.

Folded and redeployed

"Deployed Ramp, ChaSTE and ILSA were folded back and redeployed successfully after the experiment," the ISRO added.

On November 17, 1967, NASA's Surveyor 6 carried out a lunar hop, becoming the first spacecraft to do lift-off from a celestial body.

NASA says Surveyor 6 was commanded to fire its three main liquid propellant thrusters for 2.5 seconds.

"As a result, the lander became the first spacecraft to be launched from the lunar surface. Surveyor 6 lifted up to about 10 feet (3 metres) before landing about 8 feet (2.5 metres) west of its original landing point," NASA says.

'ASI survey technique is against court's directions'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee, which manages the Gyanvapi mosque, has moved an application before the Varanasi district judge saying that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is not using the GPR technique to conduct the survey and the agency is digging the premises which is against the court's directions.

"In its application, the ASI has proposed to do the survey after removing the debris/garbage etc. ASI has not been authorised to conduct survey after cleaning any debris or garbage," the mosque committee's application reads.

The ASI is conducting a scientific survey since August 4, on the orders of the Varanasi district court. The orders were given taking on record an undertaking made on behalf of the ASI that no excavation would be done at the site and no damage would be caused to the structure. The aim is to determine if the mosque was constructed over a pre-existing structure of a Hindu temple.

Telecom firms, civil society groups divided over selective ban on apps

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Telecom operators and civil society groups have clashed over the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) floating a possibility of "selective" app banning, such as switching off WhatsApp, in a strife-torn area as an alternative to Internet shutdowns. The divergent views emerged in submissions to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) that were published on Monday.

The Cellular Operators Association of India pushed for messaging services to be regulated under a licence, which would enable the Union government to order them to shut off access to, for instance, WhatsApp, when ordered to do so.

The telecom operators once again pushed their controversial argument that messaging and calling apps such as WhatsApp need to pay them for the cost incurred in carrying their data on networks. But the selective app banning debate, which is being proffered as a less extreme solution to Internet shutdowns, has its critics.

Telcos pushed their argument that apps such as WhatsApp need to pay them for the cost of carrying their data on networks. REUTERS

"We are ... apprehensive of the approach of selective banning of OTT services, given its ad hoc, ambiguous, and impractical application, and the negative consequences it may have of user choice and freedom," the Internet Freedom Foundation said.

No response by WhatsApp or its parent company Meta was published on the TRAI website. But industry groups in which the social media giant is a member expressed doubt that selective app banning would be effective.

The Broadband India Forum, of which Meta is a member, said "consumers are likely to be more motivated to find workarounds to the imposition of selective bans on OTT services or websites" and that selective bans "may not pass muster" legally.

To regulate messaging apps, telecom operators have relied on both revenue leakage arguments (arguing that even though these apps do not have spectrum rights, they are 'perfect substitutes') as well as on national security grounds – telecom operators are required to obey call tapping and interception orders, whereas messaging apps such as WhatsApp only reveal metadata, encrypting the actual text of messages and data of calls to the extent that the companies themselves cannot see the content.

"These ... service providers can provide a solution to disable their apps/services in a particular geography, as they are anyway providing location-based services and generally take permission to capture users' location," Reliance Jio argued in its submission.

"There should be no banning of any Internet-based services," the advocacy group Internet Society said, taking a strong stand against blocking of content for any reason.

After COVID-19, Russia rolls out the red carpet for Indian tourists again

Abdus Salam
MOSCOW

Russian authorities are pulling out all the stops to bring in Indian tourists in a bid to shore up arrivals in a post-pandemic scenario and amid the ongoing Ukraine imbroglio.

While the e-visa facility with validity for 60 days and a processing time of just four workdays was extended to Indians last month, efforts are under way to tide over issues around the rouble and the inability to access plastic money arising out of the sanctions imposed by the European Union and the United States.

The India outreach is part of a tourism reboot, with under two million people visiting Russia from outside the former Soviet states last year, according to State news agency Tass.

Bulat Nurmukhanov, head of the International Cooperation Division of Moscow City Tourism Committee, said the Russian government was working on a plan to issue a foreign tourist card to facilitate payments. "Some legislative amendments have to be made in this regard, but the idea is to allow someone in India to apply remotely for a bank card for mirror payments in Russia. One could transfer money from the Indian bank account to a bank account in Russia and access local services by scanning QR codes," he said. Indian tourists currently lack convenient payment options, being unable to use their Mastercard and Visa credit and debit cards, and suffer a double-transaction loss when converting their rupees into dollars and then roubles on arrival in Russia.

Moscow has already received about 20,000 Indians – 56% higher than the corresponding period last year. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. Nurmukhanov said while the Ukraine issue had resulted in some decline, tourist arrivals had already surpassed the 2021 figures "despite the challenges and perceptions". While there has been a significant bump in arrivals of Chinese and Arab tourists, the impact of the e-visa roll-out would be available by October after analysing the quarterly data from the Russian border control agencies, he said.

"We are still on our way to restoring the flow of Indian tourists to Moscow to pre-COVID-19 levels. It was a very steady growth before the pandemic, 12-15% year-on-year growth. Based on the first half of this year, we have already received about 20,000 Indians in Moscow - 56% higher than the same period last year," Mr. Nurmukhanov said.

The Moscow government is pitching the historical heritage, relative proximity, gastronomic variety, world-class amenities and value for money of Europe's largest capital to holidayers. "Russia is infrastructurally ready to compete with Dubai and Paris," said Evgeny Kozlov, chairman of the Moscow City Tourism Committee.

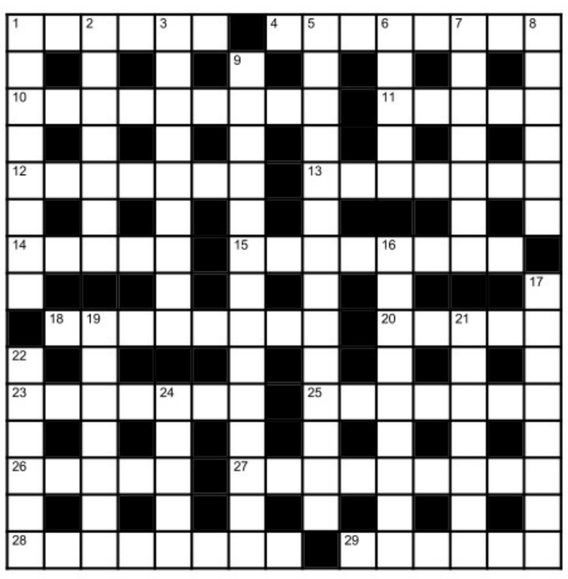
(The author was on a visit to Moscow sponsored by the Moscow City Tourism Committee)

TH CROSSWORD + 13962

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Give up - finally congress sneaks in to rule (6)
4 Came in as substitute, one forgets (8)
10 Disposed metal - point taken, continue nevertheless (7,2)
11 Finally gets paid, perhaps that's agreeable (5)
12 Decentralize banks with advance pay in (7)
13 A crooked line, or is it on the plane's wings? (7)
14 In breaking news "Yankee's an Idiot" (5)
15 African friend clutching a murder victim (8)
18 Copyright, it's provided with a drink (8)
20 Dissecting both sides in small slice (5)
23 Requiring free Oxygen? Don't shift notice board (7)
25 Displeasure over law and the country (7)
26 Fire burning, let it burn inside here (5)
27 A single mistake - checking account gives you some relief (9)
28 Landlord's fickle mind - enters right at the back (8)
29 Conceive inside a tenement (6)

Down

1 Hire outside team, he stays (8)
2 Hybrid plant as found in a shallow basin by the sea (7)
3 Wicked are saying he never agrees (9)
5 Inform day-to-day settlement for a normal working week (6,2,6)
6 Stand and hire from top to bottom (5)
7 Majestic, not a risk (7)
8 Falling in rhythm? (6)
9 Americans hit it off with mathematicians (14)
16 Out? Urge to come in with misshapen and bent supports (9)
17 Be in charge - each process is a problem (8)
19 Ideal pressure on gas over the area (7)
21 Gone before the main water body (4,3)
22 European shaking hands with Indian (6)
24 May be I caught right fish (5)

SUDOKU

		9	5					6
	3							
6		7					1	9
3				6			2	1
			1		8			
7	1			9				5
1	8					3		2
							4	
5					3	6		

No.SS5910 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

B	C	C	S	A	H	J	G	
A	D	A	M	A	N	T	M	Y
E	L	O	M	A	N	T	L	E
E	N	D	O	N	E	F	O	R
T	A	L	L	B	O	Y	I	
M	N	H	E	I	M	T	I	P
P	E	R	A	R	Y	S	E	D
G	E			L	S	P	E	D
P	A	R	A	S	O	L	T	R
O	U	N	C	E	O	E	A	A
N	S	W	I	L	L	B	A	G
A	T	E	L	L	E	E	N	V
R	A	A	N	I	K	E	B	A
N	A	L	U	S	T	R	U	M
D	D	D	D	E	A	D	I	O
R	I	N	O	C	O	N	A	S
C	E	N	T	N	N	R	R	A
H	R	Y						

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	2	8	9	6	1	7	3	5
1	6	3	7	2	5	9	8	4
9	7	5	8	4	3	2	6	1
8	9	4	1	7	2	6	5	3
7	3	1	5	8	6	4	2	9
2	5	6	3	9	4	1	7	8
5	8	7	6	1	9	3	4	2
6	4	9	2	3	8	5	1	7
3	1	2	4	5	7	8	9	6

FAITH

Krishna, the Purushottama

"Why is Krishna's birth celebrated by everyone, even in the far corners of the earth? He has the infinite capacity to gather everyone around Him, He is the only Purushottama," said Dr. Sudha Seshayyan in a discourse.

Krishna likes only small, ordinary, everyday things from His devotees. He will even accept your tears if you have nothing, not even water, to offer Him. Why do we celebrate Krishna as "*Engal* [our] *Kannan*"? It is because He always embraces His devotees. As Andal says in Tiruppavai, you do not have to ask Krishna for anything when you approach Him, He will know what you need. He proposes and He disposes. One should only repose full faith in Him, as Meerabai did.

Married into a royal household, when she immersed herself in Krishna bhakti, Meera's husband gave her the space to be herself. However, upon his death, his brother was unable to reconcile himself to her Krishna prema and first tried to poison her. When that failed, he banished her from kingdom. Meera, who took refuge in Brindavan, became famous all over the region, and a seer challenged her to a debate. When Meera invited him to her town for the same, the seer was infuriated at being beckoned by a 'mere woman.' A tranquil Meera responded, "Krishna is the only Purushottama; the rest of us are all women."

PORT VILA

Kalsakau, Vanuatu's pro-western PM, replaced in Parliament vote

REUTERS

Vanuatu's pro-western Prime Minister Ishmael Kalsakau was replaced by former Premier Sato Kilman on Monday. Kilman received 27 votes in Parliament to 23 for Kalsakau, who had been seen as friendly to the West, in a South Pacific region where the U.S. and its allies are wrestling with Beijing for influence. AFP

VIENNA

UN nuclear agency 'regrets' lack of cooperation from Iran officials

AFP

The UN nuclear watchdog said it regretted that "no progress" had been made by Iran on outstanding issues, including reinstalling cameras to monitor Tehran's nuclear programme and explaining uranium traces. Iran, however, has slowed the pace at which it produces uranium enriched up to 60% — close to bomb-grade. AFP

YANGON

Bomb attack on Myanmar border hub kills 5 officials and injures 11

AFP

A bomb attack on a government compound in the Myanmar border hub of Myawady killed five government and security officials and wounded 11 policemen. The town on the border with Thailand has seen sporadic clashes between the military and anti-junta fighters since a coup in 2021 plunged the country into turmoil. AFP

MANAMA

Israel, Bahrain Foreign Ministers agree to boost trade relationship

REUTERS

Israel's Foreign Minister Eli Cohen agreed with his Bahraini counterpart Abdullatif Al Zayani to boost trade, during his visit to establish ties. "We agreed to work together to increase the number of direct flights, the tourism, the trade volume, the investment," Eli Cohen said while inaugurating Israel's new embassy. AFP

Ukraine forces claim gains in the south and near Bakhmut

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Ukraine said on Monday it had made gains against Russian forces in the south and clawed back territory near Bakhmut in the east, as it battles to break through Russian defences.

Kyiv launched a counter-offensive against Moscow's forces in June after stockpiling Western weapons and building up assault battalions, but has struggled to make headway against heavily fortified Russian positions.

"The enemy is on the defensive in the Zaporizhzhia and Kherson sectors," Deputy Defence Minister Ganna Malyar said.

Ms. Malyar said Ukraine's forces had made success near the towns of Novodanylivka and Novoprokopivka in the south, and had also captured three square kilometres (around one square mile) near Bakhmut.

No deal until West meets Moscow's demands: Putin

Russian President met Turkey's Erdogan who wanted to revive the agreement on grain export that was cancelled in July; Putin says he will honour the deal 'within days' if his demands are met

Associated Press

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday that a landmark deal that allowed Ukraine to export grain safely through the Black Sea amid the war won't be restored until the West meets Moscow's demands on its own agricultural exports.

Mr. Putin's remarks dashed hopes that his talks with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan could revive the agreement, seen as vital for global food supplies, especially in Africa, West Asia and the rest of Asia.

Russia refused to extend the deal in July, complaining that a parallel agreement promising to remove obstacles to Russian exports of food and fertilizer hadn't been honored. It said restrictions on shipping and insurance hampered its agricultural trade, though it has shipped record amounts of wheat since last year.

Coercion bid: Recep Tayyip Erdogan, left, and Vladimir Putin during their meeting in Sochi on Monday. AFP

Mr. Putin reiterated those complaints on Monday, while saying that if those commitments were honored, Russia could return to the deal "within days."

Mr. Erdogan also expressed hope that a breakthrough could come soon. He said Turkey and the UN – which both brokered the original deal – have put together a new package of proposals to unblock the issue.

"I believe that we will reach a solution that will meet the expectations in a short time," EMr. rdogan told a news conference in the Russian resort of Sochi, where the leaders met.

A lot is riding on the negotiation. Ukraine and Russia are major suppliers of wheat, barley, sunflower oil and other goods that developing nations rely on.

Data from the Joint Coordination Center in Istanbul, which organised shipments under the deal, show that 57% of the grain from Ukraine went to developing nations, with the top destination being China.

Meanwhile, Mr. Putin said on Monday that Russia was close to finalizing an agreement to provide free grain to six African countries.

Last month, he promised shipments to Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Mali, Somalia, Eritrea and Central African Republic.

Looking forward to India trip, 'disappointed' Xi is not attending G-20 meet: Biden

Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON

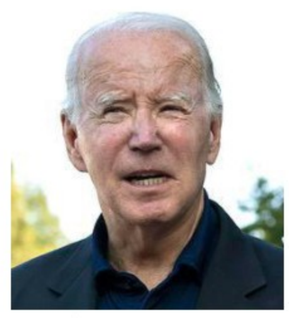
U.S. President Joe Biden has said he is looking forward to his trip to India this week but is "disappointed" that his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping will not attend the G-20 Summit in New Delhi.

Mr. Biden will travel to India on September 7 to participate in the Summit and will have a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 8, the White House announced on Friday.

In its capacity as the current President of G-20, India is hosting the annual summit of the influential grouping in New Delhi on September 9-10.

When reporters asked Mr. Biden on Sunday whether he was looking forward to his visits to India and Vietnam, he said: "Yes, I am."

"I am disappointed [that Mr. Xi is not attending the summit], but I am going to get to see him," Mr. Biden said in response to another question.



Joe Biden

Rising tensions

Mr. Biden and Mr. Xi last spoke in person in November 2022 on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit in Bali, where they pledged to restore channels of communication in an effort to prevent rising tensions from spilling into open conflict. That meeting is the only time the two have met in person since Mr. Biden took office in January 2021.

In Beijing, the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced on Monday that President Xi will not attend the Summit.

Mr. Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva are among the G20 leaders who have already confirmed their participation in the summit.

Mr. Modi will hand over the baton of the G-20 Presidency to Brazilian President Lula on September 10. The G-20 member countries represent around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.

Gabon's coup leader moots amnesty for dissenters, 'free' polls

Associated Press
LIBREVILLE

Gabon's coup leader vowed after being sworn in as interim President on Monday to restore civilian rule through "free, transparent and credible elections" after a transition and amnesty prisoners of conscience.

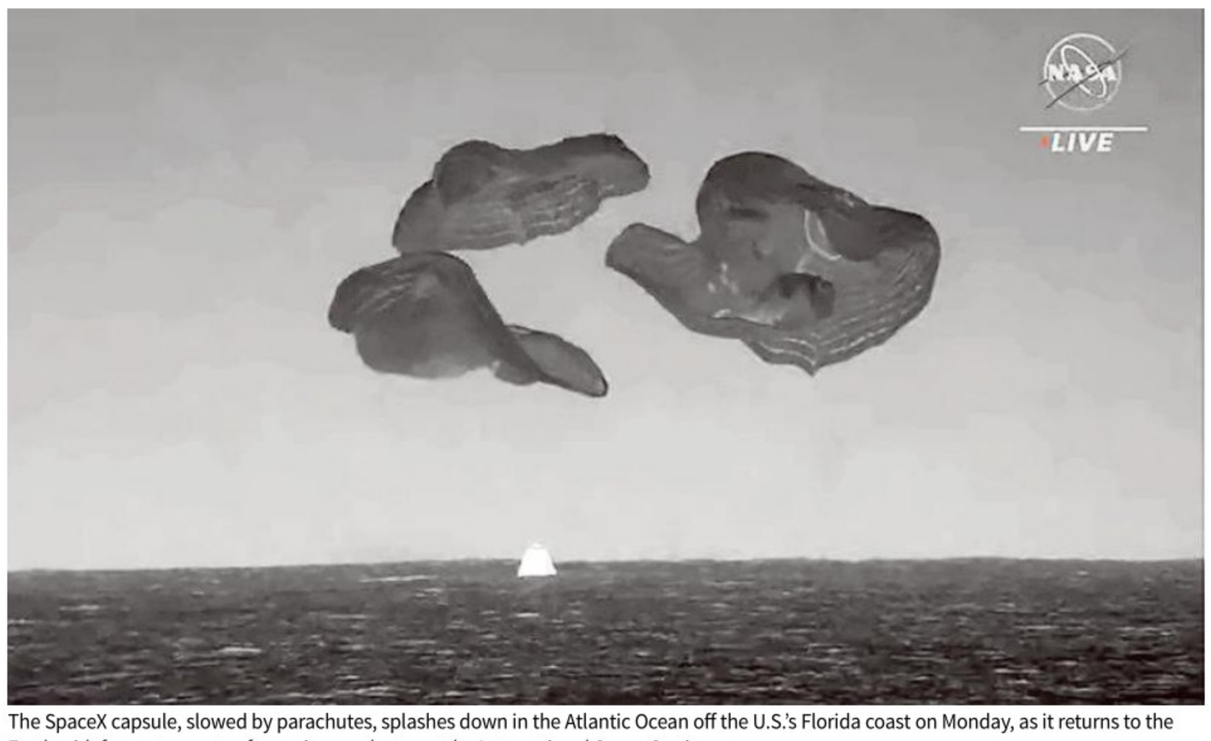
In a speech after taking the oath of office, General Brice Oligui Nguema said the elections would be the stepping stone to "handing power back to the civilians," although he did not give a timeline.

Mr. Oligui said he was seeking the participation of all of Gabon's "core groups" to draft a new Constitution, which "will be adopted by referendum."

He also said he would be instructing "the future government... to consider ways of amnestying prisoners of conscience" and "facilitating the return of all exiles" from abroad.

Mr. Oligui, 48, who is head of the elite Republican Guard, led a coup that brought the curtain down on 55 years of dynastic rule by President Ali Bongo Ondimba and his father Omar, who died in 2009.

Back to base



The SpaceX capsule, slowed by parachutes, splashes down in the Atlantic Ocean off the U.S.'s Florida coast on Monday, as it returns to the Earth with four astronauts after a six-month stay at the International Space Station. AP

France evacuates five Afghan women who faced Taliban threats

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

France on Monday was due to receive five Afghan women "threatened by the Taliban" after repeated requests it create a humanitarian corridor for women shut out of public life, an official said.

Since returning to power in August 2021, Taliban authorities have imposed a strict interpretation of Islam, with women bearing the brunt of laws the United Nations has labelled "gender apartheid".

Women and girls have been banned from attending high school and university as well as barred from visiting parks, fairs and gymnasiums.

They have also mostly been blocked from working for UN agencies or NGOs, with thousands sacked from government jobs or paid to stay at home.

French immigration authority chief Didier Leschi told AFP that by presidential order, "special attention is being paid to women who are primarily threatened by the Taliban because they have held important positions in Afghan society... or have close contacts with Westerners.

Office bearers

The women include a former university director, an ex-NGO consultant, a former television presenter, and a teacher at a secret school in Kabul.

One of the women was accompanied by three children.

The women had been unable to leave Afghanistan on airlifts to Western countries when the Taliban returned to power in 2021.

They fled to neighbouring Pakistan where they sought temporary refuge.

However, Delphine Rouilleault, the head of an NGO working for refugees, said the evacuations were "not the fruit of a political decision" but gained "after a hard fight" to obtain visas for them.

Attacks on Christians in Pakistan set off by bid to falsely implicate them for blasphemy: police

Associated Press
MULTAN

Last month's mob attacks on churches and homes of Christians in eastern Pakistan erupted after three Christians threw the pages of Islam's holy book outside the house of two others to falsely implicate them in a blasphemy case due to a personal dispute, the police said on Monday.

Internal spat

The three detained suspects confessed to conspiring and throwing Koran pages outside Raja Amir's house, three police officials said. Amir and his brother had been arrested after they were accused by Muslims of desecrating the Koran.

Faith matters: Christians protesting in Islamabad last month to condemn the attacks on churches in Pakistan. AFP

The suspected mastermind was Pervez Kodu, who thought Amir had an affair with his wife and knew Muslims would target Amir if Kodu had thrown the pages outside his house to give the impression Amir had desecrated the holy book, three police officials said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to speak to media on the record. They said the three men now face charges of causing violence and falsely implicating Amir and his brother in a blasphemy case.

Severe damage

At least 17 churches and nearly 100 homes were damaged in the August 16 mob attacks in Jaranwala, a city in Punjab province. There were no casualties but it was one of the most destructive attacks on Christians in the country.

UAE creates federal authority to monitor 'commercial gaming'

Associated Press
DUBAI

The United Arab Emirates has created a federal authority to potentially run a national lottery and what it describes as "commercial gaming," likely a sign that it is on the verge of allowing gambling as major casino operators flock to the Gulf Arab nation.

The state-run WAM news agency carried an announcement late on Sunday on the creation of the General Commercial Gaming Regulatory Authority, without offering many details about its structure or operations.

It named Kevin Mullally as its CEO. Mr. Mullally once served as the executive director of the Missouri Gaming Commission, which oversaw that U.S. State's riverboat casinos.

Casinos long have been rumored to be considered as a way to raise money in the UAE and boost its tourism industry, particularly in Dubai, home to the long-haul airline Emirates. Already, duty-free car raffles bombard those flying through Dubai International Airport.

Since returning to power in 2021, the Taliban have imposed a strict interpretation of Islam, with women bearing the brunt of laws. AP

INBRIEF

Skoda unveils variants of SUV Kushaq, sedan Slavia

Skoda Auto India has introduced two variants of SUV Kushaq and sedan Slavia, namely Kushaq Onyx Plus and the Slavia Ambition Plus at ₹11.59 lakh and ₹12.49 lakh respectively. "Both variants feature festive pricing, attractive new exchange benefits, and special corporate plans, all for a limited period," the company said in a statement. Based on the made-for-India, ready-for-the-world MQB-A0-IN platform, the Kushaq and Slavia are part of the company's India 2.0 project.

Paytm unveils $12 'soundbox' that takes card payments

Paytm on Monday unveiled a 'soundbox' device that lets merchants accept both mobile and card payments across networks including Visa, Mastercard, American Express and homegrown RuPay, to attract more subscribers from its large network. Soundbox provides instant audio alerts on amounts paid to merchants through an inbuilt speaker. Merchants can accept card payments up to ₹5,000 through Paytm soundbox's 'tap and pay' feature. REUTERS

Muthoot FinCorp to raise up to ₹400 crore via NCDs

Muthoot FinCorp on Monday announced raising up to ₹400 crore through issuance of non-convertible debentures (NCDs). The issue is a part of the ₹1,100-crore debt-raising plan approved by the board, the company said. The base size of the issue is ₹100 crore with a green shoe option of ₹300 crore. The issue will close on September 14. The issue has tenure options of 24, 36, 60, and 96 months with monthly, annual, and cumulative payment options. PTI

CBDCs can make payments across borders efficient: Das

Faster and cheaper cross-border payment services would deliver widespread benefits to people, the RBI Governor noted; Insufficient transparency in such payments remains a challenge, he said

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday said that high cost, low speed, limited access and insufficient transparency remained key challenges to existing cross-border payments, and that adoption of the Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) can make such payments efficient.

"Faster, cheaper, more transparent, and more inclusive cross-border payment services would deliver widespread benefits to people ," he said in his keynote address at the G20 TechSprint Finale 2023.

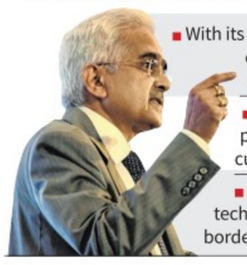
"With its instant settlement feature, I believe, CBDCs can play an important role in making cross-border payments cheaper, faster and more secure," Mr. Das emphasised.

He added that the use of local currencies in cross-border payments could help to shield emerging market currencies from global shocks, protect against exchange rate fluctuations and encourage the development of local forex and capital markets.

"As all of us are starting on a clean slate on the CBDC front, the adoption of the right technology platform, which is interoperable, would be a great benefit to the future of cross-border payments ecosystem," he said.

Vouching for CBDCs

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das elaborated on the various benefits that CBDCs can offer the global economy



- With its instant settlement feature, CBDCs can make cross-border payments more secure, Mr. Das said
- Using local currencies in cross-border payments can shield emerging market currencies from global shocks, he added
- The adoption of an inter-operable technology platform can benefit the cross-border payments ecosystem, Mr. Das noted

State Bank of India allows CBDC users to link to UPI

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The State Bank of India (SBI) said on Monday it had implemented Unified Payments Interface (UPI) interoperability in the Digital Rupee or Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC).

"This cutting-edge feature, accessible through the 'eRupee by SBI' application will empower SBI CBDC users to effortlessly scan any merchant UPI QR code for swift and secure transactions," the lender said in a statement.

"This integration will be a game changer for the digital currency ecosystem," it further said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,628	0.37
US Dollar	82.71	-0.10
Gold	60,450	0.49
Brent oil	88.96	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2470.60	20.55
Adani Ports	801.05	1.55
Apollo Hosp	4824.85	-15.50
Asian Paints	3235.55	-24.00
Axis Bank	982.25	-8.90
Bajaj Auto	4637.15	-31.30
Bajaj Finserv	1510.10	-4.40
Bajaj Finance	7270.25	-50.35
Bharti Airtel	865.30	-0.65
BPCL	344.70	0.50
Britannia Ind	4507.20	22.85
Cipla	1238.85	-6.55
Coal India	247.80	10.90
Divis Lab	3629.35	40.05
Dr Reddys Lab	5659.45	80.90
Eicher Motors	3434.15	33.75
Grasim Ind	1841.05	29.55
HCL Tech	1232.50	46.70
HDFC Bank	1584.55	9.85
HDFC Life	640.05	-1.30
Hero MotoCorp	2942.85	15.45
Hindalco	486.65	13.40
Hind Unilever	2501.40	-3.40
ICICI Bank	967.35	-1.35
IndusInd Bank	1421.80	5.25
Infosys	1465.10	21.25
ITC	437.50	-3.55
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	253.45	8.30
JSW Steel	809.80	3.40
Kotak Bank	1762.20	-8.90
L&T	2711.10	9.00
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5365.70	62.35
M&M	1576.40	-15.55
Maruti Suzuki	10362.45	31.20
NestleIndia	21738.20	-177.35
NTPC	235.80	5.10
ONGC	182.95	1.20
PowerGrid Corp	255.40	3.20
Reliance Ind	2410.70	-1.95
SBI Life	1328.35	7.80
State Bank	575.55	6.00
Sun Pharma	1108.90	-0.10
TataConsumerProduct	846.05	1.90
Tata Motors	609.00	-2.20
Tata Steel	131.75	4.70
TCS	3418.50	39.30
Tech Mahindra	1256.75	28.70
Titan	3100.30	-16.50
UltraTech Cement	8582.55	320.15
UPL	607.45	4.45
Wipro	434.10	17.75

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.55	82.87
Euro	89.18	89.52
British Pound	104.32	104.73
Japanese Yen (100)	56.40	56.62
Chinese Yuan	11.36	11.40
Swiss Franc	93.37	93.74
Singapore Dollar	60.98	61.23
Canadian Dollar	60.71	60.96
Malaysian Ringitt	17.73	17.81
Australian Dollar	53.40	53.61

Source:Indian Bank

SpiceJet gives lessors stock to clear $28 mn

Reuters
BENGALURU

SpiceJet on Monday said it allotted more than 48 million shares to nine aircraft lessors to clear outstanding dues worth ₹2.31 billion (almost $28 million), as the troubled airline looks to return to full operations.

The carrier's shareholders had on Thursday passed several resolutions, including a ₹25 billion fundraise and a preferential issue of shares to lessors to clear outstanding dues.

SpiceJet has been scrambling to raise funds and restore operations for about a fourth of its fleet that has been grounded amid fierce competition.

The funds crunch and grounded fleet has eroded SpiceJet's market share to 4.2% as of July - lower than that of new entrant Akasa, which began commercial operations in August 2022.

SpiceJet, which in February converted about $100 million in dues to lessor Carlyle Aviation into equity and debentures, is still legally battling other lessors over dues. A court recently ordered the airline to pay $12 million by September 10 to former owner Kalanithi Maran.

Federal Bank unveils 'WhatsApp lending'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Federal Bank has introduced a 'WhatsApp Lending Platform' through which customers can apply for pre-approved personal loan.

"This platform would mark a significant advancement in providing seamless financial solutions to customers," the bank said.

The platform was inaugurated by Chairman A.P. Hota in the presence of MD & CEO Shyam Srinivasan and other bank officials.

'New norms can raise CV prices by 10-12%'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Implementation of multiple proposed regulatory specifications can raise commercial-vehicle (CV) prices by 10-12%, ratings agency ICRA said.

In its report on the Indian CV industry, ICRA said the domestic automotive industry was undergoing rapid transformation, with increased focus by the government on implementing emission norms, safety systems and other standards that will bring the country at par with other major automotive markets.

"Within the Indian automotive industry, the CV sector has been the focus, given they account for the major part of vehicular emissions in the country," it said, adding mandatory standards towards driver comfort and safety can help improve road safety.

India may add 7 lakh gig jobs by November: TeamLease

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

India's e-commerce, retail, FMCG and logistics sectors are expected to hire seven lakh gig workers by November, according to a hiring-outlook report shared by TeamLease Services, a staffing solutions provider.

At least some four lakh of the gig jobs would be added in South India with most of the demand expected from Bengaluru (40%), Chennai (30%) and Hyderabad (30%), TeamLease forecast.

Strong trend

The trend overall was expected to be strong across tier-2 and tier-3 cities while most of these jobs would be in the areas of warehouse operations (30%), last-mile delivery personnel (60%) and call-centre operators (10%).

"Over the last quarter, several prominent e-commerce players have announced bullish plans for this festive season," said Balasubramanian A, VP and Business Head, TeamLease Services.

"The positive growth synergy in the sector is influenced by the shift in the consumer demographic, government's push towards Make in India, FDI and other initiatives and increased digitisation."

Compared with last year, TeamLease was anticipating a 25% increase in gig jobs pan India, while being frontrunner, South's hiring would rise by 30% compared with the last year, he added.

Meanwhile, Flipkart said it would create 1 lakh new job opportunities, ahead of the 'Big Billion Days' and festive season, across its supply chain.

As per industry research, consumer spending in India is expected to cross $4 trillion by 2030, growing at 10% CAGR.

Swaraj unveils new range of tractors in 40-50 HP category

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Swaraj Tractors, a part of Mahindra Group, has introduced a new range of tractors in the 40-50 HP category.

"Through this new tractor range, we're offering latest features and technology to elevate mechanization in Indian agriculture and empower farmers to achieve higher yields and reduce effort, fostering growth," Hemant Sikka, President, Farm Equipment Sector, M&M Ltd. said.

Harish Chavan, CEO, Swaraj Division, M&M Ltd. added, "With this new tractor range, we're steering the brand into the future, by making it ready for future agriculture mechanisation needs.

"Beyond performance, this new range emphasizes comfort, versatility for emerging applications and broader customer appeal with its contemporary but authentic styling."

Ramco to tap 45% of energy needs from green power

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Ramco Cements Ltd. (RCL) said the share of green power in its total energy consumption is expected to reach 45%, from 29% currently.

Our entire green power capacity of 85 MW, including the capacity available in the subsidiary company, would be used for captive purpose, the company said in a regulatory filing.

Currently, RCL's total wind power capacity stands at 166 MW. At an average plant load factor of 25%, the generation of wind power for captive use is expected to be 42 MW, said the company.

Sundaram Home Fin to tap budget houses

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

D. Lakshminarayanan

Sundaram Home Finance Ltd. (SHFL) is all set to enter the affordable housing finance space for disbursing home loans of up to ₹35 lakh in Tier 2 and 3 towns in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, said a top official.

"This is a natural extension of what we have been doing since inception," said MD D. Lakshminarayanan. "Focusing on the retail customer in Tier 2 and 3 towns is an integral part of our growth plans."

Hiring plans

In the first phase, SHFL will hire 50-75 people. The first set of branches will be opened by October or November in places such as Karur, Tirupur, Guntur and Vijayawada.

On disbursement target, he said it would be about ₹10 crore by March 2024.

As a wholly owned arm of Sundaram Finance Ltd., SHFL offers home, plot, home-improvement and extension loans, loans against property and small business loans. For the June quarter, SHFL logged a net profit of ₹57 crore on ₹1,104-crore disbursement.

Apollo Hospitals unveils 'enhanced connected care'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Apollo Hospitals has introduced an 'enhanced connected care' programme to improve its patient monitoring system.

The programme, a part of the hospital's connected care technology, is said to have reduced time spent on monitoring by one-hour per nurse per shift and reduced re-admissions to ICU by 30%.

"With over 1,000 beds already equipped with the real time, rapid-response patient monitoring system across Apollo units in Hyderabad and Bangalore, the company plans to add another 2,000 connected beds for all in-patients by the end of this year," Apollo said in a release.

Through the programme, patients would experience better health outcomes and increased access to healthcare, while clinicians would be able to maximise their time and make more informed decisions, said Joint Managing Director Sangita Reddy.

Backed by AI, this technology is designed to continuously monitor and detect early signs of deterioration in a patient's condition, Apollo Hospitals added in the release.

'White-collar hiring slides 6% as IT, auto turn cautious'

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

White-collar hiring in India saw a 6% year-on-year dip in August on cautious sentiment in IT, insurance, auto, healthcare and BPO sectors, as per a report.

In August, there were 2,666 job postings against 2,828 in Augst 2022, Naukri JobSpeak Index showed.

IT was a major laggard as new jobs created were 33% lower compared with the high base value in August last year. Sectors such as insurance, auto, healthcare, and BPO also turned cautious with a dip of 19%, 14%, 12% and 10% respectively, in new-job creation.

Morgan Stanley buys cancer-care provider ClearMedi for ₹280 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Shashi Kant Baliyan

Morgan Stanley PE Asia has acquired a majority stake in ClearMedi Healthcare, which runs a chain of cancer-care hospitals, for ₹280 crore.

Navneet Bali, a former Indian Navy officer who had worked with healthcare companies, has been appointed as Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

"Morgan Stanley's entry into the Indian healthcare sector signifies a transformative moment for our industry," Shashi Kant Baliyan, founder of ClearMedi Healthcare, said in a statement.

"As we continue to expand and provide high-quality healthcare solutions to our patients, Commander Navneet Bali's visionary leadership, coupled with Morgan Stanley's support, will play a pivotal role in shaping our company's future," he added.

As stocks hit a low, home prices surge in double digits

Janaki Krishnan
MUMBAI

Housing inventories across India have dipped close to their all-time lows as demand outstripped supply, pushing up prices. The housing stock is likely to remain low as developers usually try to boost sales in the festival season through incentives, freebies, and payment schemes.

Housing prices were rising steadily at 6-7% every quarter, but with inventory levels running low the price rise has now moved up to high double digits.

In the first half of the year, home sales reached a peak of 2.3 lakh units, while launches were at 2.1 lakh units, according to Anarock Research. A note by Jefferies said that demand sustained through July and August.

"While the resilient pricing is inducing developers to launch more, it is still not enough to catch up with the demand," said Jefferies, adding that the double-digit price gains should extend well through FY24.

Inventory levels have been progressively declining from July 2020, when it was at over 35 months, to the current lows. The price surge started when the stock levels dropped below 20-25 months.

Anarock Research estimated the housing inventory level at the end of June at 6.14 lakh units, down 2% year-over-year. Inventories declined by 2-9% sequentially across cities, barring Mumbai and Pune.

Analysts said that one of the reasons for the low supply is that in the June quarter, many top developers had fewer launches, corresponding to lower sales growth compared to the industry average.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

NEW ARRIVAL

Bumrah misses match against Nepal to welcome baby boy

India fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah announced the birth of his first child on Monday, a day after he flew home from the Asia Cup in Sri Lanka to be with his wife. Bumrah, 29, said his partner Sanjana Ganesan, a sports presenter, had given birth to a baby boy whom they have named Angad Jasprit Bumrah.

NO GLENN

Maxwell likely to skip ODI series against the Men in Blue

Glenn Maxwell may skip this month's ODI series against India as he takes a cautious approach in the run-up to the World Cup after his ankle flared up. "The selectors and the staff don't want to put too much pressure on me to set that date because they know they've got a bit of extra time before the World Cup," Maxwell said.

THE TIGER IS BACK

Liton Das declared fit, drafted into Bangladesh's Asia Cup squad

Bangladesh received a boost to its Asia Cup campaign when batsman Liton Das was declared fit to play on Monday and was immediately drafted into the squad, the chief selector said. Liton missed the team's two group matches due to fever and was replaced by Anamul Haque.

JUST IN TIME

Injured Williamson to be named in New Zealand's WC squad

New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson has been included in the Kiwis' 15-member ICC Men's Cricket World Cup squad, scheduled to be held in India from Oct. 5 to Nov. 19. Williamson injured his knee in the IPL 2022-23 season. The batter may not be fit enough to play the first match of the tournament against England.

India breezes past Nepal in rain-hit match, joins Pakistan in Super 4s

Openers Rohit and Gill make it a walk in the park as the team chases down the revised target of 145 with 17 balls to spare; the Nepal batters impress in their first meeting with the Men in Blue; after openers Bhurtel and Sheikh give it a flying start, Sompal takes the side past 200

ASIA CUP

Amol Karhadkar
PALLEKELE

A heavy downpour in the lead-up to the game rendered the outfield at the Pallekele International Stadium sluggish. The pitch was on the slower side, too. But India's catching was sloppier than the conditions as Nepal tallied a respectable 230 in an Asia Cup clash on Monday.

But when it came to a rain-curtailed chase, India's openers were far from sloppy. Captain Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill dominated Nepal's bowling attack as the Men in Blue overhauled the revised target of 145 in 23 overs with 17 balls to spare.

Had it not been for the groundstaff's stupendous effort, India's reply would not have been possible after two heavy showers. Once the openers resumed at 17 for no loss in 2.1 overs, they were unstoppable.

While Rohit was at his marauding best, especially against the spinners, Gill – who began with three boundaries before the rain arrived – played ideal foil.

Earlier, India's effort on the field was in contrast to the openers' stellar show. Shreyas Iyer put down a catch at first slip off the final ball of the first over to deny Mohammed Shami – who replaced Jasprit Bumrah in the XI – a wicket.

If Kushal Bhurtel was fortunate in the opening over, it was his partner Aasif Sheikh's turn off the very next ball as Virat Kohli at cover missed a sitter off the bowling of Mohammed Siraj.

In the fifth over, Ishan Kishan caught the 'no catching' infection as he dropped an easy one down the leg-side off Bhurtel. In the sixth over, the opener charged down the wicket to loft Siraj over his head and hooked the next ball into the parking lot over square-leg. It was then Aasif's turn to go after Siraj in his next over as he hit successive fours. Hardik Pandya was taken for 11 in his first over as Nepal made the Power-Play count. But Shardul Thakur's golden arm did the trick in the 10th over as Bhurtel nicked behind to Kishan. Though the Nepal batters found Ravindra Jadeja extremely tough to negotiate, Aasif laid anchor before being caught by Kohli off Siraj in the 30th over. At 144 for six, India sensed a chance to wrap up the innings but Sompal Kami played a sensible knock to help Nepal cross the 200-run mark. But it wasn't enough once Rohit and Gill took guard.

In top gear: Rohit, in the company of Gill, made the short chase a shorter one. AP

SCOREBOARD

NEPAL
Kushal Bhurtel c Kishan b Shardul 38 *(25b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Aasif Sheikh c Kohli b Siraj 58 *(97b, 8x4)*, Bhim Sharki b Jadeja 7 *(17b)*, Rohit Paudel c Rohit b Jadeja 5 *(8b)*, Kushal Malla c Siraj b Jadeja 2 *(5b)*, Gulsan Jha c Kishan b Siraj 23 *(35b, 3x4)*, Dipendra Singh Airee lbw b Hardik 29 *(25b, 3x4)*, Sompal Kami c Kishan b Shami 48 *(56b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Sandeep Lamichhane run out 9 *(17b)*, Karan KC (not out) 2 *(2b)*, Lalit Rajbanshi b Siraj 0 *(3b)*; Extras (lb-6, w-3): 9; Total (in 48.2 overs): 230.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-65 (Bhurtel, 9.5 overs), 2-77 (Sharki, 15.6), 3-93 (Paudel, 19.6), 4-101 (Malla, 21.5), 5-132 (Aasif, 29.5), 6-144 (Gulsan, 31.5), 7-194 (Dipendra, 41.1), 8-228 (Kami, 47.2), 9-229 (Lamichhane, 47.4).

INDIA BOWLING
Shami 7-0-29-1, Siraj 9.2-1-61-3, Hardik 8-3-34-1, Shardul 4-0-26-1, Jadeja 10-0-40-3, Kuldeep 10-2-34-0.

INDIA
(Target: 145 in 23 overs)
Rohit Sharma (not out) 74 *(59b, 6x4, 5x6)*, Shubman Gill (not out) 67 *(62b, 8x4, 1x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (for no loss in 20.1 overs): 147.

NEPAL BOWLING
Karan 4-0-26-0, Kami 2-0-23-0, Rajbanshi 4-0-24-0, Lamichhane 4-0-39-0, Dipendra 2-0-12-0, Malla 3-0-11-0, Gulsan 1.1-0-11-0.

Toss: India; **PoM:** Rohit.
India won by 10 wickets with 17 balls remaining (DLS method).

Today's match

GROUP B

Afghanistan vs. Sri Lanka

Lahore, **3 p.m.** IST

H2H IN ODIs
Played **10**

Afghanistan	Sri Lanka	NR
3	6	1

Points Table

GROUP A	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Pakistan (Q)	2	1	0	1	3	4.760
India (Q)	2	1	0	1	3	1.028
Nepal	2	0	2	0	0	-3.572

Q: Qualified

India's WC squad to be announced today

Amol Karhadkar
PALLEKELE

Prasidh Krishna and Tilak Varma – the two additional members of India's 17-member squad along with Sanju Samson, the travelling reserve – are set to miss out on India's squad for the men's Cricket World Cup. The 15-member squad is set to be announced on Tuesday, the deadline day to submit the squad.

Barring the trio, all the other 15 squad members of the Asia Cup, are set to lead India's quest for repeating the heroics of 2011, when Mahendra Singh Dhoni's men lifted the ODI World Cup on home soil.

It is highly unlikely that either R. Ashwin, the veteran off-spinner, or Washington Sundar, the off-spinning-all-rounder, will be able to make a last-minute entry with the team management preferring to strengthen its batting with a reliable option at No. 8.

Axar Patel and Shardul Thakur have been identified as the spin and pace-bowling all-rounders and are set to retain their place for the World Cup.

The Hindu understands that ever since chairman of the selection panel Ajit Agarkar joined the squad in Kandy on August 30, there have been multiple rounds of discussions between him, captain Rohit Sharma and head coach Rahul Dravid.

Besides, the chief selector has also been keeping in touch with his colleagues in the selection committee about the fitness status of the recently recovered trio.

Jasprit Bumrah and Shreyas Iyer have shown no signs of discomfort, although the former has travelled to India for paternity leave. K.L. Rahul has also been cleared by the National Cricket Academy's medical staff in Bengaluru, having recovered from a groin strain he picked up ahead of the Asia Cup.

As a result, the selection panel and the team management is unlikely to tinker around with the core that had been identified for the Asia Cup.

"It's really a no-brainer. We picked these 18 guys, so it'll be in and around those guys. A few important guys are coming back from injury.

"Hopefully, all goes well with them. They have got a few games now... so yeah, it'll be between these guys," Agarkar had said on August 21 in New Delhi, after announcing the squad for the Asia Cup.

Ostapenko ends Swiatek's New York run and No. 1 reign; Djokovic cruises

US OPEN

Agence France-Presse
New York

Defending champion Iga Swiatek crashed out of the US Open on Sunday after defeat by Jelena Ostapenko and will lose her No. 1 ranking, while Novak Djokovic marched into the quarterfinals.

Swiatek grabbed the opening set against Ostapenko but the unpredictable Latvian stormed back to win 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 and secure her fourth victory in as many meetings with the Polish star.

The mercurial Ostapenko, who had never made it to the last 16 in New York before this week, goes on to face title contender and home favourite Coco Gauff in the last eight after blasting Swiatek out of the tournament.

"She plays well against me, she's always done that," said Swiatek.

"I'm just surprised that my level changed so drastically. I don't really know what happened with my game, I felt no control suddenly."

Gauff ended Caroline Wozniacki's fairytale Grand Slam comeback earlier on Sunday as the sixth seed saw off the former World No. 1 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.

Djokovic swept into his 13th US Open quarterfinal, cruising past 105th-ranked Croatian qualifier Borna Gojo 6-2, 7-5, 6-4 to advance to a showdown with American No.1 Taylor Fritz.

After recovering from two sets down in the previous round, Djokovic dictated from the outset against 25-year-old outsider Gojo who had won just one Grand Slam match prior to this week.

"He's been playing some terrific tennis particularly on home soil here in the States," Djokovic said of Fritz, the only man yet to drop a set so far.

"Obviously the matches are going to get tougher from here onwards and I'm ready. It's going to be great."

Fritz became the third American man to reach the quarterfinals on Sunday after a straight-sets win over Swiss qualifier Dominic Stricker.

He joins compatriots Frances Tiafoe and Ben Shelton in the next round. It is the first time the US has had three men's quarterfinalists in New York since 2005.

India's Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden advanced to the men's doubles quarterfinals with a hard-fought three-set win over Julian Cash and Henry Patten on Sunday.

The sixth seeded Indo-Australian pair won 6-4, 6-7(5), 7-6(10-6) against the British duo of Cash and Patten after toiling hard for two hours 22 minutes in the third round at the Arthur Ashe Stadium on Sunday.

Bopanna and Indonesia's Aldila Sutjiadi crashed out of the mixed doubles, losing 6-2, 7-5 to Taylor Townsend and Ben Shelton in the third round.

4-0: Ostapenko stormed back from a set down to secure her fourth victory in as many meetings with Swiatek. AFP

THE RESULTS

Fourth round: Men: Shelton (USA) bt 14-Paul (USA) 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; 10-Tiafoe (USA) bt Hijikata (Aus) 6-4, 6-1, 6-4; 9-Fritz (USA) bt Stricker (Sui) 7-6(2), 6-4, 6-4; 2-Djokovic (Srb) bt Gojo (Cro) 6-2, 7-5, 6-4.
Women: 17-Keys (USA) bt 3-Pegula (USA) 6-1, 6-3; 9-Vondrousova (Cze) bt Stearns (USA) 6-7(3), 6-3, 6-2. 30-Cirstea (Rou) 15-Bencic (Sui) 6-3, 6-3; 6-Gauff (USA) bt Wozniacki (Den) 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; 20-Ostapenko (Lat) bt 1-Swiatek (Pol) 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Mixed Doubles: Third Round: Townsend & Shelton (USA) bt Bopanna & Sutjiadi (Ina) 6-2, 7-5.

Fallen seeds
Men: 14-Paul. **Women:** 3-Pegula. 15-Bencic; 1-Swiatek.

'I played impulsively in some positions against Carlsen'

The 18-year-old is happy about the reception the sport is receiving in the country, reflects on his recent World Cup exploits and rues the missed opportunities against the Norwegian

INTERVIEW

R. PRAGGNANANDHAA

Rakesh Rao

It took R. Praggnanandhaa's gate-crash into the recent World Cup final in Baku, Azerbaijan, to make a cricket-loving nation take note of the teenager's prowess, like never before. The 18-year-old also earned a spot in the 2024 Candidates Tournament, leading to the next World Championship title match.

After a hero's welcome inChennai, Praggnanandhaa made a dash to New Delhi to meet PM Narendra Modi and joined the preparatory camp at Kolkata for the Asian Games. Despite all the rush, Praggnanandhaa took time to speak at length to *The Hindu*, reflecting on his exploits.

In the spotlight: Praggnanandhaa is surprised to have received a hero's welcome back home. RAKESH RAO

Q: On returning home to an unprecedented, euphoric welcome

Honestly, I didn't expect this. After coming back to India, I could see so many people now know what's happening (in chess). Also, it's a different feeling, honestly. At airports, people are recognising me. Even when I check into hotels, they take note of me. Honestly, I could have enjoyed it being normal like before, without being recognised.

The tense quarterfinal victory over good friend Arjun Erigaisi

That was the match where we both did not give up. It showed our character, in a way, that we were not giving up. That was really good. He twice came back from defeats after I did the same following the loss in the opening game.

Reaching the board 30 seconds late for the sudden-death game against Arjun...

The explanation is there is a big digital clock, which displays the countdown to the next game. I thought it showed five minutes to go but in reality it was 50 seconds! So I went to wash my face and once I came out of the rest room, an arbiter told me the game had already started. But I did not panic. I walked to the board and played calmly.

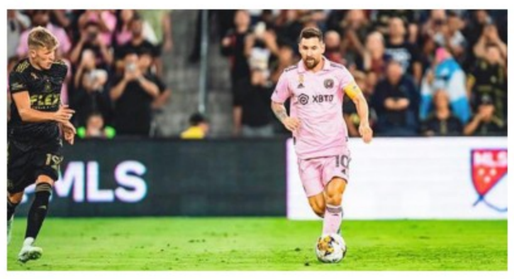
Blanking Nakamura 2-0 in rapid tie-breaker

Apparently, Hikaru forgot the move-order and erred early in the first rapid game. Computer evaluation shows that I was winning, but it was not obvious for me. After a few moves, I realised that maybe I was actually winning!

The final against Magnus Carlsen

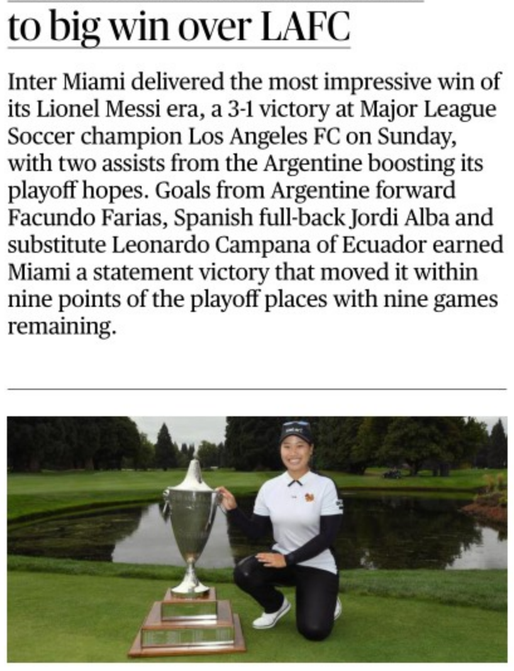
The first game was pretty solid. I was trying a bit and then I kind of misplayed it. I was not in any danger. And the second one, he (an unwell Carlsen) wanted to make a draw. I didn't think it was a bad decision because I was also tired. In rapid games, I got my chance in the first one. But I think he has a lot of experience in such situations. I played impulsively in some positions, which is not my usual style.

INBRIEF



Messi's assists take Miami to big win over LAFC

Inter Miami delivered the most impressive win of its Lionel Messi era, a 3-1 victory at Major League Soccer champion Los Angeles FC on Sunday, with two assists from the Argentine boosting its playoff hopes. Goals from Argentine forward Facundo Farias, Spanish full-back Jordi Alba and substitute Leonardo Campana of Ecuador earned Miami a statement victory that moved it within nine points of the playoff places with nine games remaining.



Thai teen Chanettee cruises to LPGA Portland Classic win

Thailand teenager Chanettee Wannasaen fired a dazzling nine-under par 63 on Sunday to capture her first LPGA title, taking a four-stroke victory at the Portland Classic in tournament-record fashion. Chanettee pulled away in the final round to complete an astonishing romp over a stellar field on 26-under 262 after 72 holes at Columbia Edgewater in Portland.

Indian boxing team for Asian Games to train in China

The Indian boxing team for the Asian Games will undergo a 17-day training camp in the Chinese city of Wuyishan ahead of the continental multi-sporting event in Hangzhou, the national federation said on Monday. Thirteen boxers and 11 support staff members left for China on Sunday, the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) said in a tweet. The training camp will continue till September 20. "Post that, the team will leave for Hangzhou for the Asian Games." BFI said.

Ramos returns to boyhood club Sevilla after 18 years

Veteran former Spain defender Sergio Ramos said on Monday he was returning to his home-town club Sevilla after 18 years away at Real Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain. "It's a very special day, returning home is always a tremendous joy, now we have to do the medical," the 37-year-old Ramos told the media.

Leader Bagnaia escapes major injury; Espargaro wins

MotoGP points leader Francesco Bagnaia escaped major injury after a dramatic crash during the Catalunya GP on Sunday, his team said. The defending World champion flew off his bike during an opening-lap accident and another bike rode over his legs while he was prone on the track. He was taken to the hospital, and his Ducati team said that he sustained multiple contusions. Teammate Enea Bastianini was hurt in another crash. Aleix Espargaro won the race.

Lewandowski penalty wins it for Barcelona in the end

The match also saw the debuts of Cancelo and Felix as second-half substitutes; the Portugal stars joined the Catalan club on loan deals just before the close of the summer transfer window

EURO LEAGUES

Associated Press
BARCELONA

For a second straight game, Robert Lewandowski came to Barcelona's rescue after he earned and converted an 86th-minute penalty to grab a 2-1 win for Barca at Osasuna on Sunday.

Lewandowski's winner came 10 minutes after substitute Chimy Avila equalized for Osasuna.

Barcelona defender Jules Kounde headed in the opening goal in first-half injury time.

Barcelona's win kept it two points behind Spanish league leader Real Madrid after four rounds.

The game in Pamplona included the debuts of Joao Cancelo and Joao Felix as second-half substitutes.

The Portugal players joined Barcelona on loan deals just before the close of the summer transfer window on Friday night.

Osasuna played the final minutes with 10 men after Alejandro Catena earned a red card for his foul on Lewandowski with only the goalkeeper Aitor Fernández to beat.

Lewandowski's goal from the resulting penalty was his second of the season.

Hungry for goals: Lewandowski, right, has made a good habit of scoring winners for Barcelona. AFP

Central defender Inigo Martínez also made his Barcelona debut in the final moments of the game.

The former Athletic Bilbao player had been injured since signing for Barcelona this summer as a free agent.

Atletico game put off

Atletico Madrid's home game against Sevilla scheduled for Sunday was postponed ahead of forecasts of heavy rain in central Spain, the Spanish league said.

The results:

LaLiga: Osasuna 1 (Avila 76) lost to Barcelona 2 (Kounde 45+1, Lewandowski 85-pen).

Serie A: Empoli 0 lost to Juventus 2 (Danilo 24, Chiesa 82); Lecce 2 (Krstovic 6, Espeto 90+8-pen) lost to Salernitana 0.

Inter Milan 4 (Thuram 23, Martinez 53, 73, Calhanoğlu 58-pen) bt Fiorentina 0;.

Torino 1 (Radonjic 90+4) bt Genoa 0.

Indian men's team enters semifinals in Asian TT

Sports Bureau

The Indian men's team, seeded third, entered the semifinals with a 3-0 win over Singapore and assured itself of a medal in the 26th ITTF-Asian table tennis championships at Pyenongchang (South Korea) on Monday.

It is India's third semifinal entry in the team championships so far.

India will meet second seed Chinese Taipei in the last-four stage on Wednesday. Taipei beat Iran 3-2. In the other semifinals, Korea will face China.

The Indian women's team went down 3-0 to Japan in the quarterfinals and will play Singapore for placings for 5-8 positions.

The results (quarterfinals):
Men: India bt Singapore 3-0 (A. Sharath Kamal bt Izaac Quek 11-1, 10-12, 11-8, 11-13, 14-12; G. Sathiyan bt Koen Yew En Pang 11-6, 11-8, 12-10; Harmeet Desai bt Clarence Chew Zhe Yu 11-9, 11-4, 11-6).
Women: Japan bt India 3-0 (Mimo Ito bt Ayhika Mukherjee 11-7, 15-14, 11-8; Hina Hayata bt Manika Batra 11-7, 11-9, 9-11, 11-3; Miu Hirano bt Sutirtha Mukherjee 7-11, 11-4, 11-6, 11-5).

It all started in the City of Joy for Pragg

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOLKATA

He has hardly had a moment of rest since he made it to the final of the Chess World Cup at Baku. R. Praggnanandhaa may have lost to Magnus Carlsen, the planet's best player by a considerable distance, but he won fame the way probably no Indian chess player has since Viswanathan Anand.

From Baku, he had to travel to Dusseldorf for the FIDE World rapid team championship. His team WR Chess was the champion.

After receiving a hero's welcome in his hometown of Chennai, he was invited for a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi. Then he came to Kolkata for the Indian team's coaching camp for the Asian Games.

On Tuesday, he will begin his campaign at the Tata Steel Chess India tournament.

"I have always enjoyed being in Kolkata and Tata Steel Chess India is a super tournament," Praggnanandhaa said at a media interaction here on Monday. "It was here I got to play for the first time against players like Hikaru Nakamura, Vishy sir (Anand) and Levon Aronian in 2018. I had a glimpse of what top class chess was about.

Praggnanandhaa. DEBASISH BHADURI

Even though it was a blitz tournament, I got to learn a lot from these players."

The 18-year-old is happy that he would be playing both the rapid and blitz sections this time around. "I have never played both the events in the same tournament and I am very excited," he said. "This year's field is very strong as it always is."

Praggnanandhaa believes that Arjun Erigaisi and Nihal Sarin too would join Gukesh and him in the world's top-20. "We are all working very hard," he said.

Feeling at home

About his meeting with the Prime Minister, Praggnanandhaa said he was made to feel at home. "He was asking me about my tournaments, training, and other things in general," he said. "I was very happy to meet him."

Ju has the last laugh in the blitz section

TATA STEEL CHESS

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOLKATA

It was perhaps fitting that Ju Wenjun finished it off with a queen check. She is the reigning queen of international chess, after all.

The win against Anna Ushenina in the final round gave her the blitz title at the Tata Steel Chess India tournament at the National Library on Monday.

The 32-year-old from China has been the World champion since 2018, her latest triumph coming just six weeks ago.

She was given a stiff fight, though, by Koneru Humpy, the undisputed Indian queen for the last couple of decades.

The former World rapid champion from Vijayawada, seeded second here, had to settle for the runner-up spot, despite winning her last-round encounter against the blitz champion Divya Deshmukh.

Humpy second

Humpy scored 12 points, just half a point behind Ju. Third seed Dronavalli Harika ended up third, while Divya, whom Humpy later described as the next star, was fourth.

The final day had begun with Harika and Ju on top of the table.

But in the day's first game, Humpy defeated Ju to strengthen her bid for the top prize.

Proving costly

A draw in the penultimate draw with Ushenina would prove costly in the end for Humpy, as would the shock defeat for Harika to Vantika Agrwal.

Ju's win over B. Savitha Shri gave her a half-a-point lead, going into the final round.

The Open tournament begins on Tuesday. R. Praggnanandhaa and D. Gukesh would very much be in the focus, after their recent exploits, though Nihal Sarin, who won the blitz event last year, is missing from the strong field, headed by France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave.

Best on show: Ju and Divya with their reward after their success in the blitz and rapid sections respectively. DEBASISH BHADURI

The results:

18th round: Divya Deshmukh lost to Koneru Humpy; Anna Ushenina (Ukr) lost to Ju Wenjun (Chn); B. Savitha Shri lost to Irina Krush; Nino Batsiashvili (Geo) bt Vantika Agrawal; Dronavalli Harika lost to Polina Shuvalova (FIDE).

17th round: Shuvalova drew with Divya; Vantika bt Harika; Krush lost to Batsiashvili; Ju bt Savitha; Humpy drew with Ushenina.

16th round: Divya bt Ushenina; Savitha lost to Humpy; Batsiashvili lost to Ju; Harika drew with Krush; Shuvalova lost toVantika.

The standings: 1. Ju 12.5 points; 2. Humpy 12; 3-4. Harika and Divya 10.5; 5. Shuvalova 10; 6. Krush 9; 7-8 Ushenina & Vantika 7; 9. Batsiashvili 6; 10. Savitha 5.5.

Rishabh's double sends TNCA XI on a leather hunt

BUCHI BABU

Sports Bureau
DINDIGUL

Rishabh Chouhan piled on the agony for TNCA XI with a double-hundred as Madhya Pradesh posted a mammoth 536 in the semifinals of the All India Buchi Babu tournament at the NPR College Ground here on Monday.

Meanwhile in Salem, left-arm spinner Ajay Mandal produced a brilliant spell of five for 17 to get Chhattisgarh back into the game against Delhi despite conceding a 153-run first innings lead.

The scores:
Madhya Pradesh 536 in 177.1 overs (Sumit Kushwah 111, Rishabh Chouhan 233, Aryan Deshmukh 40, Aman Bhadoria 41, R. Sai Kishore 4/141) vs TNCA XI 212/4 in 75 overs (M.S. Washington Sundar 83 batting, A. Badrinath 65, M. Shahrukh Khan 33).
Delhi 340 & 80 in 36.5 overs (Ajay Mandal 5/17) vs Chhattisgarh 187 in 67.3 overs (Shashank Chandrakar 42, Md. Shahbaz Hussain 40, Hrithik Shokeen 4/45) & 121/5 in 46 overs (Rishabh Tiwari 48, Shashank Singh 48).

Diksha ends seventh; Soenderby wins

Press Trust of India
DUBLIN

Indian golfer Diksha Dagar squandered a promising start as she shot a 2-under 70 in the final round to sign off at sole seventh place at the KPMG Women's Irish Open golf, here on Sunday. It was the 22-year-old Diksha's sixth top-10 finish of the year. Smilla Tarning Soenderby secured victory in a playoff.

LIVE TELECAST

Asia Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3 p.m.
US Open: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 & LIV, 9 p.m. & 4.30 a.m. (Wednesday)
England vs New Zealand: 4th T20I, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 10.30 p.m.

Rahul included but no place for Taha

MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

K.L. Rahul has been chosen in the list of Karnataka probables for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. The domestic T20 tournament, scheduled to be held from Oct. 16 to Nov. 6, will run parallelly with the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

Top performers at the recently concluded Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 have been rewarded, with the likes of L. Manvanth Kumar, Abhilash Shetty, Luvnith Sisodia, K.L. Shrijith and L.R. Chethan making the grade. Senior batter R. Samarth has made a comeback, having accumulated 422 runs at a strike-rate of 141.61 in the Maharaja Trophy. However, opener Mohammed Taha has been overlooked, despite being adjudged the player of the tournament in the Maharaja Trophy, having scored 448 runs – second highest in the competition – at a strike-rate of 173.64 to carry Hubli Tigers to the title.

Chairman of the selection committee, J. Abhiram, told *The Hindu* that the call was made with the future in mind. "Due credit should be given to Taha, but with a lot of openers around, and younger cricketers emerging, we have to look ahead," Abhiram said of the 29-year-old Taha. "If we don't bring in youngsters now, we will not be able to build a team for the future."

The trio of Shreyas Gopal, K.V. Siddharth and Karun Nair aren't part of the roster, for they have reportedly secured No Objection Certificates to ply their trade outside Karnataka. It may be noted that Siddharth and Karun weren't part of the T20 probables last season too. There is no place for K.C. Cariappa too.

The list: K.L. Rahul, Mayank Agarwal, Prasidh Krishna, R. Samarth, Devdutt Padikkal, Manish Pandey, Abhinav Manohar, S.J. Nikin Jose, B.R Sharath, K. Gowtham, Shubhang Hegde, V. Vyshak, Vidwath Kaverappa, V. Koushik, L. Manvanth Kumar, Monish Reddy, L.R. Chethan, K.L. Shrijith, Luvnith Sisodia, R. Smaran, Abhilash Shetty, C.A. Karthik, J. Suchith, Pranav Bhatia, Manoj Bhandage, S.A. Rishi Bopanna, Pravin Dubey, M. Venkatesh.

Lucknow to host Davis Cup World Group-2 tie

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The hard courts of the Mini Stadium in Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, will play host for the Davis Cup World Group-2 tie against Morocco. on September 16 and 17.

With the two leading players of Morocco, Elliot Benchetrit and Yassine Dlimi ranked 476 and 551 respectively, the Indian team possibly did not feel the need to look for a venue with grass courts. Sumit Nagal and Mukund Sasikumar, ranked 189 and 361 respectively, are expected to play the singles matches.

Akido claims honours in the Belmont Prince Plate

RACING

HYDERABAD: Trainer K. Satheesh's Akido, ridden by Akshay Kumar, won the Belmont Prince Plate, the main event of Monday's (Sept. 4) races.

The winner is owned by Mr. A.C. Muthiah. Akshay Kumar rode two more winners on the day.

1. BHONGIR PLATE: EXPONENT (Surya Prakash) 1, Anab E Shahi (S. Saqlain) 2, Mr. Perfect (Mohit Singh) 3 and My Way Or Highway (D.S. Deora) 4. Not run: Honey Girl. 2-1/4, 2 and 2-1/4. 1m, 30.56s. ₹185 (w), 19, 10 and 17 (p). SHP: 30, THP: 37, SHW: 22 and 12, FP: 787, Q: 141, Tanala: 3,290. Favourite: Anab E Shahi. Owner: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

2. NORTHERN DANCER PLATE (DIV. II): COLT PISTOL (Akshay Kumar) 1, Fly Me (S.K. Paswan) 2, Calisson (Kuldeep Singh (Sr)) 3 and Bold Beauty (P. Sai Kumar) 4. 3/4, 1/2 and Neck 1m, 17.24s. ₹30 (w), 12, 17 and 26 (p). SHP: 69, THP: 58, SHW: 21 and 44, FP: 326, Q: 152, Tanala: 3,258. Favourite: Deccan Spirit. Owner: Mr. Maddali Sai Kumar. Trainer: G. Shashikanth.

3. NORTHERN DANCE PLATE (DIV. I): D RIGHT TIME (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 1, That's My Love (Kuldeep Singh (Sr)) 2, Great Combo (R.S. Jodha) 3 and Mix The Magic (S. Saqlain) 4. Not run: Santa Barbara, Silver Act and Veneno. 5, 2-1/4 and 3/4. 1m, 18.28s. ₹13 (w), 10, 21 and 29 (p). SHP: 52, THP: 105, SHW: 10 and 32, FP: 99, Q: 46, Tanala: 1,441. Favourite: D Right Time. Owner: Mr. B.M. Dayananda. Trainer: Ananta Vatsalya.

4. BELMONT PRINCE PLATE: AKIDO (Akshay Kumar) 1, Morior Invictus (Md. Ismail) 2, Yesterday (P. Trevor) 3 and City Of Blessing (Santosh Raj) 4. 3/4, 4 and 2. 1m, 56.23s. ₹34 (w), 10, 18 and 19 (p). SHP: 49, THP: 37, SHW: 16 and 35, FP: 525, Q: 179, Tanala: 1,176. Favourite: N R I Superpower. Owner: Mr. A.C. Muthiah. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

5. B. MARIDESHWARA RAO MEMORIAL CUP: SIDDHARTH (Akshay Kumar) 1, Strauss (B. Nikhil) 2, N R I Sport (Sonu Kumar) 3 and Just Incredible (Kuldeep Singh (Sr)) 4. Head, 9 and 4-1/4. 1m, 28.40s. ₹22 (w), 14, 17 and 30 (p). SHP: 52, THP: 49, SHW: 12 and 34, FP: 186, Q: 102, Tanala: 1,294. Favourite: Barbet. Owner: Mr. Aditya P. Thackersey. Trainer: M. Srinivas Reddy.

6. HYPERION PLATE: SPLENDOUR ON GRASS (Mohit Singh) 1, Sweet Dancer (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 2, Divine Connection (R.S. Jodha) 3 and D Minchu (Kiran Naidu) 4. 1-1/4, 3/4 and 3-1/2. 1m, 9.44s. ₹33 (w), 16, 13 and 27 (p). SHP: 35, THP: 62, SHW: 20 and 12, FP: 89, Q: 41, Tanala: 670. Favourite: Sweet Dancer. Owner: Mr. Sanjay R. Goyani. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.

7. HIDDEN BLOOM PLATE: BAISA (P. Trevor) 1, Cabello (Santosh Raj) 2, See My Spark (A. Imran Khan) 3 and Laurus (Akshay Kumar) 4. 4-1/4, 2-1/2 and 3/4. 1m, 15.27s. ₹21 (w), 12, 37 and 43 (p). SHP: 132, THP: 73, SHW: 11 and 59, FP: 218, Q: 158, Tanala: 3,696. Favourite: Baisa. Owner: Mr. Laxman Singh Parmar. Trainer: Laxman Singh.

Jackpot: 70%: ₹730 (684 tkts.) & 30%: 121 (1,759 tkts.).

Treble: (i) 82 (381 tkts.), (ii) 169 (323 tkts.).

Mini Jackpot: 3,090 (18 tkts.).

Verstappen's record is part of something even more impressive

Ferrari team boss Fred Vasseur lauds the runaway leader's consistent ability over the last two seasons to over-ride any mistakes with his brilliant driving

FORMULA ONE

Reuters
MONZA

Max Verstappen made Formula One history with his 10th win in a row on Sunday but the Red Bull driver's all-time record forms part of a bigger success story that is even more remarkable.

Ferrari team boss Fred Vasseur, who had Carlos Sainz and Charles Leclerc third and fourth behind Verstappen and his teammate Sergio Perez at the Italian Grand Prix, highlighted that fact afterwards.

"I think the most impressive for me is that Max, it's not just about the last 10 races but it's about the last two years," said the Frenchman.

"I would say that he didn't do a single mistake-...for sure it's easier to not do mistakes when you have a margin on the others and so on but even in these kind of circumstances he's able to manage the situation very well. To not do a single mistake over two seasons, it's just mega."

Verstappen did not take pole position at Monza on Saturday, missing out to Sainz by a mere 13 thousandths of a second, but the pressure was all on the Ferrari driver rather than the potential record man.

Dominant: Verstappen and Red Bull have made the 2023 season all their own, winning all the 14 races held so far. GETTY IMAGES

Such is the Red Bull's race pace advantage, even if Sainz held him off for longer than expected on Sunday, that Verstappen could afford to play a waiting game and trust in his car and team.

Pressure

"He put some pressure on Carlos but never too much, he didn't take risks and knew that he had a difference of pace and he was convinced that if it's not possible during the first stint it will be around the pitstop," said Vasseur.

The win was Verstappen's 12th of the season and stretched Red Bull's record unbeaten run to 15 races, dating back to last season's Abu Dhabi finale.

Verstappen is now a hefty 145 points clear of Perez with eight races remaining and his inevitable third title fast approaching.

"That's a nice stat," the 25-year-old said over the radio when he was congratulated on the record win, taking him one beyond the nine-in- a-row of now-retired Sebastian Vettel, but the statistics from the last two seasons are also pretty tasty.

Phenomenal record

Since the start of the 2022 season Verstappen has won 27 of 36 races and 21 of the last 25.

The Dutch driver has taken 37 of his 47 career victories since the start of the 2021 season.

In the last 26 races, Verstappen has finished lower than second only twice and in the last 36 he has ended up off the podium only five times.

His last retirement was in Australia in April 2022 – 34 races ago – and that was through no fault of his own, with the Red Bull rolling to a halt at Melbourne's Albert Park with smoke billowing from it.

It is also very much a team effort and Red Bull have won 24 of the last 25 races.

Ferrari's Sainz and Leclerc bring the fighting spirit back at Monza

Associated Press
MILAN

Ferrari has got its fighting spirit back. And it couldn't have found it at a better place.

While the cars are clearly off the pace of the all-conquering Red Bull, Ferrari thrilled the passionate fans at its home track with an intense tussle for third place at the Italian Grand Prix.

In the end, it was Carlos Sainz Jr. who edged Charles Leclerc for the final spot on the iconic Monza podium, behind runaway Formula One leader Max Verstappen – who claimed a record 10th straight victory on Sunday – and Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez.

It was the first podium for Sainz this season to cap a great weekend for the Spanish driver, who turned 29 on Friday.

Sainz was fastest in two of the three practice sessions and qualified in pole position.

And he had the thousands of red-clad fans dreaming of a rare Ferrari win, especially when he was leading the first 14 laps – the longest that any non-Red Bull driver has led a race in 2023.

So impressive was Sainz's performance that he was asked if it was the best weekend of his career.

"Of this year, for sure. Of my Ferrari career probably. Of my F1 career, it's a tough call but I felt like this weekend I was on it from the beginning," Sainz said.

"To be honest, I feel good. OK, I missed the podium, but Carlos is on it anyway, so a Ferrari is on there," Leclerc said. "In the end, it was really fun. I enjoyed it a lot.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Students Union FC rallies to win

Students Union FC staged a come-from-behind 3-2 victory, that included an injury-time winner from Pratik Swami, over Bangalore Independents FC in the BDFA Super Division football league here on Monday.

The results: MFAR Students Union FC 3 (Pratik Swami 45+2, 90+3, Brajesh Kumar Yadav 86) bt Bangalore Independents FC 2 (Saravana Kumar 14, 18); FC Agniputhra 3 (Nikhil Raj Murgeshkumar 45+5, Suk Raj Subba 57, Sachin Karnan 90+3) bt Bangalore Dream United FC 1 (Raju Hasfore 90+2).

State under-23 cricket probables named

Karnataka, on Monday, named a 26-man probables list for the BCCI Men's under-23 State A-Trophy to be held from October 28 to November 23.

The list: Vishal Onat, Rohan A.Patil, Thippa Reddy, K.V. Aneesh, B. Vijayaraj, Macneil H. Noronha, Lochan S. Gowda, R. Smaran, Aneeshwar Gautam, Akshan S. Rao, S.P. Shreyas, Kruthik Krishna, Aashish Mahesh, Shubhang Hegde, A.C. Rohit Kumar, K. Shashikumar, Mohsin Khan, Nathan D'Mello, Paras Gurbax Arya, L. Manvanth Kumar, Yashovardhan Parantap, Rajvir Wadhwa, Vidydhar Patil, L.R. Kumar, Monish Reddy, Bheem Rao.

Hafeezun at the helm

Md. Hafeezun will lead Karnataka, while P. Uttam of FC Bengaluru United's Pro Football school will be his deputy, at the Hero U-15 junior boys National football championship for B.C. Roy Trophy to be held in Bhubaneswar from Tuesday.

Karnataka will play its first match against Maharashtra, the second against Jharkhand on September 7 and the third against Mizoram on September 9.

The team: Md. Hafeezun (capt.), P. Uttam (vice-capt.), Garve Hegde, Shuhas Verma Rudhraju, S.V. Harshith, Vivek Baskar, Advik Kurup, Aryan F. Vora, Kanik Anil, Siddharth Sajith, C. Dhruv, Roy Jackson, Chiranth, Paul Pradeep, Essa Mohamed Yenopoya, Rakshit P. Anil, Sameer Doss, Kris Thomas Joseph, V. Yoga Vijayan, Karan Chetal, Shishir Shetty, V. Jeevanth; Head coach: M. Vijay Kumar; Asst. coach: D. Raju; Manager: R. Vinay Kumar.

Gandharv advances

Boys' second seed Gandharv Gourav Kothapalli defeated Tanishq Jadhav 6-3, 6-3 to move into the second round of the ITF Junior J30 Bengaluru tennis tournament her on Monday.

In the girls' category, top seed Sai Janvi breezed past Gurleen Kaur Khanuja 6-1, 6-0.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Joint Director (Animal Husbandry),
N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002

No.: BBMP/2023-24/IND0009 Date: 04.09.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites tender from eligible bidders for supply of MS fabricated Dog cage and MS fabricated OT cabin for CD dog operation.

Following are the events of tender process: (1) Date of Commencement of download of tender document from Karnataka Public Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**: on **04.09.2023** onwards. **(2)** Date, time & venue of Pre-bid meeting: **07.09.2023** at **11:00 a.m.** at Office of the Joint Director, Animal Husbandry, Head Office, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru. **(3)** Last date and time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: **07.09.2023** upto **5:00 p.m.** **(4)** Last date and time for uploading of eTender in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: **19.09.2023** upto **5:00 p.m.** **(5)** Date and time of online opening of Technical bids in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: **20.09.2023, 5:30 p.m.** **(6)** Address for Communication: Office of the Joint Director, Animal Husbandry, Head Office, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru.

Tender documents may be downloaded from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), BBMP

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ
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e-mail:sskmandya@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಸಿ2/ಸ.ಶಿ.ಕ/ಹೆ.ಮ.ಶಿ.ಟೆ/01/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ:28.08.2023

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ವಯವಾಗುವಂತೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸೇವೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಆಹಾರ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗೆ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿಯ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಡಿಯಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿದೆ. ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕೆ.ಜಿ.ಬಿ.ವಿ ಟೈಪ್–1 ಎರಡು (02) ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ.ಜಿ.ಬಿ.ವಿ ಟೈಪ್–4 ಎರಡು (02) ವಸತಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರೆಕಾಲಿಕ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಸೇವೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಆಹಾರ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಬ್ಲಾಕ್ ಹಂತಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಆಸಕ್ತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ/ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಜಿ ಡೌನ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **01.09.2023 ರಿಂದ 08.09.2023**. ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **08.09.2023**. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **11.09.2023 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ**. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : ನಂತರ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ನಿಗಧಿತ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ನೋಡಲ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿವರ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **9448999403/9449704252** ಅನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಲು ಕೋರಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು(ಆಡಳಿತ) ಹಾಗೂ ಪದನಿಮಿತ್ತ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಶಾಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಜ/ಸಸಿ–ಮಂ/ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/259/2022–23

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಜಯನಗರ
ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಜಯನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560041

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಾಆಜ/ಭದ್ರತೆ/ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್/01/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.09.2023

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಜಯನಗರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಈ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ 2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಈ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ **ಭದ್ರತೆ** ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ– ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಸೇವೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ.

ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ
ಭದ್ರತೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ–17	ರೂ. 40,00,000.00

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ: (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **06.09.2023** ರಿಂದ. (2) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20.09.2023, 4:00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ**. (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ (Technical Bid) ದಿನಾಂಕ: **21.09.2023, 5:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ**. (4) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ (Financial Bid) ದಿನಾಂಕ: **25.09.2023, 4:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ**.

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳ ನಿಯಮ ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. "E-Tender upload through this website: **https//:eproc.karnataka.gov.in**"

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಎಲ್‌ಸಿ/1161/2023–24

ಸಹಿ/–, ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರು
ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಜಯನಗರ

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR SALE / AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Whereas, Late Pulak Chandra Ray has executed the Will dated 26.10.2017, registered as document No. JAY-3-00340-2017-18 stored in C.D. No. JAYD310 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar. Late Pulak Chandra Ray being the absolute owner in possession of the bequeathing properties, with absolute power and authority has bequeathed his properties as per his whims and wishes and appointed Mr. S. T. Prashantha Kumar, Senior Partner at Fox Mandal & Associates, Bangalore as the executor of his WILL and after his demise on 02.06.2022, Mr. S.T.Prashantha Kumar has become the authorized executor of the WILL.

Since Testator i.e., Mr. Pulak Chandra Ray is deceased we are looking to dispose of the Schedule Property through auction and Schedule Property is morefully described in the Schedule hereunder. In this regard we hereby inform the public that the highest bidder shall be considered as the successful bidder for the purpose of sale of the Schedule Property.

Anybody interested in purchasing is hereby requested to send their bid price for purchase of the Schedule Property in writing in a sealed envelope to the undersigned within 15 days of the publication of this auction notice.

The property will be sold on **"As is where is" "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** condition and no movable properties are included.

The auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the Executor/Seller.

The intending bidder/s are required to do their own due diligence. The authorized Executor/ Seller has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone the sale without assigning any reason thereof.

The intending bidder may contact Mr. S. T. Prashantha Kumar, Senior Partner, Fox Mandal & Associates, Bangalore and/or Mrs. Naga Champa B. N, Practice Head, Fox Mandal & Associates, Bangalore through their email address prashantha.kumar@foxmandal.in and champa.bn@foxmandal.in respectively or on landline contact no. +91 80 2559 5911 for doubts/clarifications if any and future course of action on the auction procedure or for details about the property.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
(Schedule Property)

Residential apartment being Flat No. B-304 in the third floor of the multistoried apartment building known by the name 'ETHER' built on converted land of Sy.Nos. 60/1 and 63/2 of Sarakki Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk [Khaneshumari Nos. 238/1 and 238/2] PID No.57-267-010 of super built up area of 2,318 Square Feet [Terrace 504 Sq.Ft. + 1814 Sq.Ft. super built up flat- area] [including toilet area of 50 Sq.Ft. being part of the terrace].

Valuation of Property

Amount as per valuation submitted by **HANUMANTHAPPA AND ASSOCIATES (Approved Valuer)** - Rs. INR 1,90,00,000 /- One Crore and Ninety Lakhs Rupees Only (rounded off).

S. T. Prashantha Kumar
Senior Partner, **Fox Mandal & Associates**
"FM House", 6/12, Primrose Road,
Bangalore - 560 025. Phone : +91 80 2559 5911
e-mail: prashantha.kumar@foxmandal.in
Date : 05/09/2023

Government of Karnataka
Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Davanagere

No.EE/RDWS& SD/DVG/AE-2/JE-1/JE-2/JJM/Tender/449
Dated:-31/08/2023

Short term E-Procurement Tender Notification
(3rd, 4th &5th Call)

Tender is invited through e-procurement for 34 works of Jagaluru Taluk approved under 2021-22 Jal Jeevan Mission scheme for Rs. 3349.00 Lakhs, 05 works of Channagiri Taluk approved under 2021-22 Jal Jeevan Mission scheme for Rs. 1108.00 Lakhs, 08 works of Davanagere Taluk approved under 2021-22 Jal Jeevan Mission scheme for Rs. 1372.93 Lakhs 02 works of Harihara Taluk approved under 2021-22 Jal Jeevan Mission scheme for Rs. 500.5 Lakhs **Providing Functional Household tap connections** in One/Two cover system by the Executive Engineer, RDWS & S Division, Davanagere on behalf the Governer of Karnataka, for registered PWD Contractors and also registered in e-Portal cell. **Item rate tender** as per standard bid documents **KW** only through e-Procurement in order to enahance the transparency in the tendering process and hence there will be no physical form of tender. Last date for submission of tenders on **Dated:13/09/2023 at 5.00 PM**. Further details can be obtained from this office Tel No: 08192-262126 or through website http//eproc.karnataka.gov.in

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಡಿವಿಜಿ/217/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RWS Division, Davanagere

STATE BANK OF INDIA
VATADAHOSAHALLI BRANCH, NEAR BUS STAND
VATADAHOSAHALLI, CHIKKABALLAPURA DISTRICT.

A/C No. 64084315869 (Housing Loan)

POSSESSION NOTICE
(For immovable property)
(Appendix IV Under the Act,-Rule 8(1) and (2)

WHEREAS

WHEREAS

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **State Bank of India, Vatadahosahalli Branch, Chikkaballapura District** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules2002, issued a **Demand Notice Dated 26/06/2023** calling upon the **BORROWER: Sri Venkataramanappa, S/o Adi Murthy (Late), R/o Asst No. 283/286, Jeelakunte Village, Nagaragere Hobly, Gowribidanur Taluk, Chikkabalapura District. (OR) D.No: 138-1, 7th Cross, Pai Layout, Hulimavu, Bangalore South, Bangalore, Guarantor: Sri Shanta Raju, S/o Venkata Shamappa, Jeelakunte (V), Nagaragere Hobly, Gowribidanur Taluk, Chikkabalapura District.**

To repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 10,41,267/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Forty One Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty Seven Only) as on 21/06/2023 (Minus if any Payments).** With further interest at contractual rate from **22/06/2023** and incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this **30/08/2023**

This borrower/guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **State Bank of India, Vatadahosahalli Branch, Chikkaballapura District** for an amount of **Rs. 10,41,267/-** + further interest at contractual rate and incidental expenses, costs, charges etc

FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Sy.No. 283/286, Extent: East-West : 6 Mts; North - South : 6 Mts
Location: Jeelakunte Village Muddalodu Gram Panchayath Nagaragere Hobly, Gowribidanur Taluk
Boundaries: East : Gangama House; **West :** Venkateshappa House; **North:** Gangamma House; **South :** Road.

Date : 30/08/2023
Place : Vatadahosahalli

Sd/-Authorised Officer,
State Bank of India, Vatadahosahalli Branch

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our clients **(1) Mr B.S Ashok,** aged about 67 years, son of late B.Subbarama Setty, presently residing No.3901/B, "Seshamahal", 13th "A" Cross, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 070 and **(2) Dr H.C Ramesh,** aged about 67 years, son of late H.R Chandrashekar, presently residing at "Prashanthi", No.447, 20th "B" Cross, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 011, along with others are negotiating acquisition by purchase of all the piece and parcel of immovable property being the site No. 3 situated at Sarakki Kere, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk (formed in Converted Survey. No. 16/1, 17 and 18/2 of the aforesaid Sarakki Kere, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru Taluk), more particularly mentioned and described in the **Schedule** appearing hereunder and herein after referred to as the **"Schedule Property"** from its current owners being Messrs Niranjan Industries, a firm constituted under the provisions of the Indian Partnership Act, 1932 with its registered office at No.15, J.P Nagar, 3rd Phase, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560 076 represented by its Partners **(1) Mr C.Jayaram,** son of late Changalraya Achari, **(2) Mr J Srinivas,** son of C.Jayaram and **(3) Mr J.Vijay Kumar,** son of C.Jayaram, all residing at No.103/21, 3rd Main Road, Tata Silk Farm, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004 . The sale in favour of our clients and their co-purchasers is intended to be completed inter-alia on the basis of a marketable title free from all encumbrances, charges, liens or other claims whatsoever, coupled with vacant position of the said property.

Any person having or claiming to have any manner of right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property is hereby given notice of the intended alienation of the Schedule Property by the current owners thereof in favour of our clients and their co-purchasers and are hereby called upon to lodge evidence of such claim/claims with the undersigned within fifteen days of the issue of this Public Notice failing which our clients and their co-purchasers will be constrained to assume very justifiably that such claim/ claims do not exist and/ or are hereby waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being site No. 3 (three) situated at Sarakki Kere, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk formed in lands situated in Converted Survey. No.16/1, 17 and 18/2 of Sarakki Kere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West 70 ft. or 21.33 mts. and North to South 40 ft. or 12.19 mts. with a total area of 2800 sq. ft. or 260.22 sq. mts. bounded on the East by private land, West by Main Road, North by Site No.2 and South by Site No.4.

Sd/-
L.P.E Rego, B.A (Hons.). LL.B, Advocate
N-509, Manipal Centre,
#47/73, Dickenson Road, Bangalore-560 042.

Bangalore
Dated: 5-9-2023

MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Directorate of Minorities, #16 C, Moulana Azad Bhavan,
Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasantha Nagara, Bengaluru-560052
Ph No. 080-22535901/02, Help Line No: 8277799990,
Email:**directorgokdom@gmail.com** Website: **https://dom.karnataka.gov.in**

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for Fellowship 2023-24 (J.R.F. Model) from the eligible Students belonging to Minority Communities (Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Sikh, Parsis) pursuing M.Phil and Ph.D courses in any subject from a Government Recognized Universities.

- Online applications are invited from students pursuing M.Phil/ Ph.D. during the year 2023-24
- Applicants are advised to apply online for any one of the M.Phil. Or Ph.D. programmes through this link: **https://sevasindhu.karnataka.gov.in/Sevasindhu/DepartmentServices**
- Submit the Hard copy of application along with required documents to concerned District Minority Office where the university is situated. (District of University /College)
- For further detailed instructions, eligibility criteria frequently asked questions (FAQs) and procedure please visit Minority Directorate's official website: **https://dom.karnataka.gov.in**.
- For more information contact the concerned District Minority Officer, Minority Welfare Department.
- Last date to apply: **03-10-2023.**

Sd/-
Director,
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1157/Zen/2023-24

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Authorised Dealers: Volkswagen Bangalore North: Thanisandra: Mobile: 7032397999, 9100666023; **Old Airport Road (Sales Point): Mobile:** 9606988828; **Volkswagen Bangalore: Hosur Road: Mobile:** 8105583597; **Volkswagen Whitefield: B. Narayanapura: Mobile:** 9900010727, 9900021210; **Volkswagen Palace Cross: Mobile:** 9686601249; **Volkswagen Bangalore South (JP Nagar): Mobile:** 9952220000 ; **Volkswagen Bangalore North: Hebbal: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9100995774; **Volkswagen Bangalore Central: Richmond Road: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9100995753; **Volkswagen Palace Cross: Victoria Road (DWA): Mobile:** 9900035187; **Rajajinagar (Sales Point): Mobile:** 9900049174; **Hesaraghatta (Sales Point): Mobile:** 9900049174; **Volkswagen Tumkur: Sira Main Rd: Mobile:** 7032397999, 9100919214; **Volkswagen Hubli:** (0836) 2220000, 7760984531; **Volkswagen Belgaum:** (0831) 2477777, 9900022688, 9900022691; **Volkswagen Palace cross: Mysore Road:** 9900053496; **Volkswagen Mangalore:** (0824) 2433430, 2433530, 7829142030; **Volkswagen Mysore:** 9611586240, 9611586247; **Volkswagen City Center (Lalbagh Road):** 9100995753; **Volkswagen City Store Bangalore North (Yelehanka):** 9281147546.
DWA Outlet: Volkswagen Palace Cross - 9686601249, 9900064401.